

The Middlebury Campus

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Tailgating Policy Sparks Student Backlash Petition to Reverse Decision Gains Support

By Claire Abbadi and Caroline Walters

On Tuesday Sept. 16, just days before the first football game of the season, an all-school e-mail was sent detailing a new tailgate policy, in which alcohol is prohibited at all venues, including in the tailgate area, as is amplified music. The email, signed by Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott, Director of Public Safety Elizabeth Burchard and Athletic Director Erin Quinn and which cites ensuring a safe, healthy environment and consistency with the NESCAC sportsmanship clause as the main reasons, came as a shock to multiple constituencies within the College community.

Though Quinn and President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz assert that the conversation of changing this policy formally began last year, and years before informally, the all-school email was the first time that students were looped into the conversation, including elected student officials like SGA President Taylor Custer '15.

"I was shocked that the stu-

dent body wasn't consulted in any way. If I hadn't heard anything about it, then it's unlikely that any student had," Custer said.

"Students--particularly those legally old enough to drink-- do not understand why that liberty is being taken away without reason," added Francesca Haass '16.5 in a letter to Liebowitz.

"They are frankly insulted that the school chose to justify this policy change with an email that was, for lack of a better word, bulls--t. If you are going to take away freedoms from students, have the courtesy and courage to do so in an honest manner rather than couching it in a vague NESCAC statement. Maybe you do have very legitimate reasons, and I think the students would be very interested in hearing your arguments so that a real debate about student life on Middlebury's campus can take place," Haass' letter read.

A petition entitled "Reverse Changes in the New Tailgating Policy" was drafted through WeTheMiddKids and received 2,507 votes, by far the largest number of votes an SGA petition has received since its for-

mation.

However, college officials stand by the argument that there is clear reasoning for their decision, including one incident which Quinn refers to as the "tipping point": the homecoming game versus Trinity College.

"An unmanageable number of students and alumni, I couldn't tell you the exact number, but well over 100, were very intoxicated," Quinn explained.

"I was getting phone calls from Public Safety saying, 'Erin, we are trying to clear the parking lot and get people back into the stadium so that they will stop drinking. They are really drunk; they are belligerent; they are swearing at us, but they don't want to go into the game.'"

Quinn explained that prior to

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JOE FLAHERTY

New "no alcohol" signs displayed at Saturday's game, top; tailgaters parked outside the field, bottom.

JUSTALKS ENTERS FIRST YEAR SEMINARS

By Caroline Agsten

Beginning as a forum in 2011 dedicated to fostering conversations surrounding identity and diversity issues, "JusTalks" is now being expanded into First Year Seminars.

The genesis of JusTalks began with a group of students who sought to combat the issue that, according to their website, postulates, "There is simply no time or space at Middlebury within the confines of a twelve week semester to have dialogues about matters of identity or diversity, race, gender, sexual orientation, class, ability, personal history, privilege, and religion, among others. [These are all] important personal and societal issues for us to take time to deconstruct, to explore, and to reflect on."

In Winter Term of 2012, the JusTalks leaders invited students to participate in this day-long event, which consisted of small group exercises and discussions led by a student facilitator, run in a similar fashion to Midd Uncensored. The following year, the event was limited to first-year students as a way for JusTalks to progress toward its initial goal of creating a program for first-years only.

While these two winter events were attended on a voluntary basis, JusTalks is working on expanding to become a

mandatory component of the first-year experience. This fall, JusTalks began its pilot JustTalks First Year Seminar discussion sections in five seminars.

"It became clear that a one day event in January wasn't enough to fully explore these subjects," Kate McCreary '15, one of the JusTalks coordinators, said. "We also heard feedback from the administration that suggested in order to make it mandatory, JusTalks would have to fit in with existing structures at Middlebury. The idea to align with First Year Seminars then came about."

Each JusTalks seminar meets once a week and is led by

two former facilitators. It lasts for one hour with no outside homework. Each week there is a designated session that each class discusses and engages in relevant activities, such as film screenings, reflection writing, and article reading.

"It's a combination of showing students something and asking for their reactions, and then connecting their experiences to Middlebury," McCreary said.

The process began last spring when members of the group reached out to professors who they thought might be interested in partnering with JusTalks.

"Most seminars have some

SEE JUSTALKS, PAGE 3



PHOTO CREDIT

Joanie Thompson '14 facilitates at JusTalks last J-term.

College Socioeconomic Diversity Disappoints

By Philip Bohlman

On Sept. 8, The Upshot, a New York Times blog, published a ranking entitled "The Most Economically Diverse Top Colleges," where Middlebury College placed 51st. Five NESCAC schools, Amherst, Wesleyan, Bowdoin, Williams and Hamilton were in the top 50, while Middlebury was between peers Carleton and Bates.

The ranking compared 100 colleges with four-year graduation rates above 75 percent. These colleges tend to be sound investments for the majority of low-income students attending, according to the article.

The schools' levels of economic diversity were determined using a College Access Index, calculated using two statistics. The first was the percentage of the freshman class who come from low-income families, measured by the number receiving a Pell grant. The second was the average net price for students whose families earn between \$30,000 and \$48,000 a year. Of the schools assessed, the College was ranked 75th for percentage of freshman with Pell grants and 33rd for net price. Generally, households in the bottom 40 percent of income distribution

qualify for Pell Grants. According to The Upshot, the College's average percentage of grant-receiving freshman from 2012-2014 was 13 percent.

Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles said in an email, "Middlebury welcomes any national conversation that puts creating access to college at the forefront." However, he also sees a flaw in rankings' methodology.

"Personally, I have mixed feelings about the emphasis on Pell grants as a way to measure access. It's a very blunt instrument that The New York Times in particular has seized upon as a standard," he said.

He cited international students that the college funds who would otherwise be eligible for Pell grants and undocumented students who are also not accounted for in this way as examples of the faults in the system.

Buckles prompted questions regarding the credibility of the process. "Are students whose families may make just a few hundred dollars above the level of Pell Grant eligibility somehow not worthy of 'counting' as being socio-economically diverse? Should we be selecting one candidate over another, who may come from similarly

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STRESS AT COLLEGE
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INSIDE LOOK AT DJ
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Buckles Rejects Study's Legitimacy

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disadvantaged circumstances, because one would technically be Pell-eligible and one wouldn't?" he said.

Middlebury is also one of the few schools that is need-blind in its admissions policies for domestic applicants that also meets 100 percent of demonstrated need. Middlebury also does not practice need-affirmative policies, whereby a college identifies applicants who have a high level of need, in this case, Pell-level need, during the application process before making admissions decisions, Buckles said.

The College is still recovering from the effects of the recession. There are some realities that must be observed, according to Buckles. "Middlebury needs to be cognizant of its financial responsibilities and operate in such a way that it balances both its commitment to the public good and its commitment to long-term fiscal security," he said.

On the whole, diversity is on the rise at top colleges, according to The Upshot. One metric that the ranking provides for context is the change in percentage of students receiving Pell grants. In the last four years the College has increased the share of incoming freshman with Pell grants from 10 percent to 13 percent. This year's first-year class has the highest ever percentages of first-generation college students, students of color, students receiving financial aid and students receiving Pell grants in the College's history.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Trivia

Crossroads Cafe
THURSDAY AT 9 P.M.

Friday Free Film

Come to Dana Auditorium to watch 22 Jump Street!
6 P.M. AND 9 P.M.

First Chance Dance

Wilson Hall (formerly the Social Space) will host the First Chance Dance! Free grille food and photobooth are included.
FRIDAY FROM 9 P.M.-1 A.M.

Brainerd Fall Festival Cider Tasting

Experience a true Vermont fall on Friday in Crossroads cafe. Co-sponsored by MCAB this event will have free food and cider. All ages are welcome. Bring two forms of id for 21+.

SATURDAY AT 9:30 P.M.

Zumba

Take a study break to dance in Wilson Hall (formerly the Social Space)
SUNDAY 4-5 P.M.

Yoga/Spin

Sign up to experience YouPower's newest class, an hour of spin and half hour of yoga! Sign up ever Friday at 9am at go/spinyoga
SUNDAY 10-12:15 A.M.

Tailgating Policy Bans Alcohol

NESCAC TAILGATING POLICIES

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this point, the College had made some incremental changes to the tailgating policy in response to what he calls "an increasing number of belligerent students and alumni at games."

One incremental change was the decision to open the tailgate area only an hour and a half before kickoff to limit on-site drinking. Likewise, College policy mandated that the tailgate area be cleared after kickoff and then again once after halftime, in attempts to limit alcohol consumption.

At the Trinity game, however, Quinn instructed Public Safety to keep the students and alumni within the tailgate area, despite the policy.

"If they can't handle them out there, contained and isolated, then it will be far worse inside the stadium. So I thought how can we minimize liability, because we don't have the people in the stadium to control them. That in and of itself is a scene that is not acceptable," Quinn said.

According to Quinn, some tailgaters went on to steal food and beverages from Trinity families and run across the road to use the bathroom publically.

However, what many constituencies have taken objection to the most is not the justification for the policy, but the lack of transparency around the decision making process itself.

At an SGA meeting with Quinn and Smith Abbott, SGA Senator Michael Brady '16 asked about demonstrated this concern.

"I think what a lot of students are struggling with is that we weren't given any real, hard facts about the bad behavior. The Trinity game was mentioned, but do you have any hard facts? Was there a big increase in property damage, hospital visits, or complaints from community members?" Brady said.

Quinn stressed Public Safety's inability to contain students, and its efforts to keep the local police from intervening.

"I know this might not be satisfactory, but we don't have any hard data," Quinn answered.

One alum and current parent also voiced his concerns about what the policy would lead to.

"Banning alcohol and witch-hunting underage drinking on campus doesn't work well anyway, it just creates smaller groups, drives students off-campus, and encourages pre gaming type behavior," he explained.

"I understand that the administration wants to get the drinking under control at events," alumna and current parent Heidi Lehner '72 said. "But drinking amongst even undergrads is inevitable and I am concerned with the binge drinking culture increasing on campus."

Liebowitz sent an all school e-mail on Tuesday, Sept. 23 offering context for the tailgating policy, in which he apologized for not being more transparent. "It is clear that preparatory communications would have served everyone, including us, well and so we apologize for what as a surprise to many," he stated.

That said, Old Chapel was not immediately apologetic. In one meeting with the



WILLIAMS COLLEGE: NO ALCOHOL ALLOWED INTO THE WESTON FIELD ATHLETIC COMPLEX.



BATES COLLEGE: ALCOHOL ALLOWED IN FENCED IN AREA. NO KEGS OR HARD ALCOHOL. TAILGATING RESTRICTED BY TWO HOURS BEFORE GAME TIME.



TUFTS UNIVERSITY: TAILGATING WITH ALCOHOL RESTRICTED TO DESIGNATED AREA. NO EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PER VEHICLE, NO KEGS ALLOWED.



COLBY COLLEGE: ALCOHOL ALLOWED IN TAILGATE AREA ONLY. KEGS NOT ALLOWED, BEER MUST BE IN CANS.



TRINITY COLLEGE: KEGS PROHIBITED. ALCOHOL ALLOWED IN SPECIFIED TAILGATING AREAS.



AMHERST COLLEGE: ALCOHOL ALLOWED AT TAILGATE PARTIES "HELD IN DESIGNATED AREAS," NOT IN THE STANDS.



WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY: ALCOHOL ALLOWED AT TAILGATES.

MORE STRICT

LESS STRICT

Campus, it was explained that the College does not usually consult students on policy changes that affect all of the College's constituencies.

While Burchard felt that the administration's communication to students on this issue has been overlooked.

"We have communicated to students about the tailgate policy," Burchard explained. "Last year we sent a campus wide notice explaining all of the tailgate rules. We posted signs at the tailgate area, and officers and security staff members warned people when the rules were being violated or if conduct was unacceptable."

Likewise, Liebowitz referenced a Community Council meeting in March, where a conversation about the policy change took place. Although it was mentioned, there is no reference to the policy in the minutes of that meeting.

Despite different perceptions of what was communicated, there have been over-

whelming amounts of both positive and negative feedback, however, the threat from alumni to withdraw donations is concerning.

"Many of the younger class agents are resigning which is worrisome," said President of the Alumni Association Bob Sideli.

Although he does not think the affect on contributions to the college will be "dramatic," he expresses "anything that causes the [alumni] to disconnect is unfortunate."

But the feedback has by no means been consistently bad.

"We received emails from NESCAC schools, I won't say which ones, but who more or less hinted that this has broken the ice and that there will be other schools following this lead, because no one wanted to step out front and address an issue that was really coming into focus with other schools as well," Liebowitz concluded.

New First Year Senators Elected

By Emma Dunlap

The online voting period for the Student Government Association (SGA) First-Year Senator elections opened last Friday, Sept. 19. First-years placed their votes in ranked order for three candidates: Christina Brook '18, April Poole '18, and Jin Sohn '18. When the polls closed twenty-four hours later, it was announced that Brook and Sohn would be placed into the two open positions.

145 votes — representing 25% of the Class of 2018 — were cast. This year's elections utilized the same "rank ballot" system that started last year, allowing students to rank their desired candidate in order of preference. The SGA also added a "None of the above" option this year, which, according to SGA Elections Council Chair Nick Warren '15, is supposed to allow "students to still feel involved without having to choose [a candidate]."

Each candidate was given a fifty dollar campaign budget to spend. Poole decid-

ed against using this money and instead focused on "meeting as many people as possible" because of the small number of candidates there were running.

"Last year, when I ran, there were eight candidates," former First-Year Senator Karina Toy '17 said. "I went up to everyone and introduced myself and hung posters everywhere."

Toy led the First-Year Committee with former fellow senator Wenhao Yu '17 with the goal of creating a more cohesive class for first-years. The Committee is responsible for organizing events for first-years such as Atwater dinners.

The newly elected Brook explained that she has never been involved with a student government organization of any kind. "None of the schools that I attended ever had something remotely similar," Brook said.

Brook wanted to pursue a position where she could have an impact and stat-

ed that her interest stemmed from the "way students could voice their opinions regarding the inner-workings of relevant issues on campus and within this community." Brook plans to reach out to her fellow peers and address the issues they believe to be pressing matters. She also would like to address "the way in which freshmen interact with upperclassmen, predominantly regarding discussing major/minor possibilities, academics, and student organizations."

According to Warren and Toy, the primary job of the Senators is to represent the opinions of their class and to voice these opinions when proposing legislation and working with administrators. With her term completed, Toy offers parting words of advice for Brook and Sohn: "Talk to people. Never be afraid to ask questions and always pursue your own legislative interests."

Students Participate in Global Climate March

By Zane Anthony

Over 160 energized Middlebury students, alumni and faculty descended upon the streets of New York on Sunday, joining 311,000 others at the People's Climate March, a historic climate rally that wound a three-mile, six-hour course through Manhattan.

Hundreds of thousands of people both in New York City and at over 2,800 sites in 150 countries marched with polychrome floats, banners, pickets, placards, and blow horns, marshaling attention to the looming threat of climate change. More than 1,500 U.S. organizations, including schools, labor organizations, businesses, and faith groups, helped plan the protest, which espoused the tagline, "To change everything, we need everyone."

The single largest demonstration of the climate movement to date, the march preceded the United Nations Climate Summit on Sept. 23, which was called to order by Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. Dubbed a "political action forum," the gathering at the U.N. Headquarters in New York will generate a pre-

cise framework for forthcoming climate talks in Lima in December and Paris in 2015, during which an international pact on CO₂ emissions reductions will be discussed.

"The U.N. has outlined the stakes in the climate fight," Greta Neubauer '14.5 said at the march. "Today, people filled the streets and demonstrated that we will accept inaction no longer. The U.N. needs to take serious steps to address the causes of the climate crisis, and it needs to take the lead from the people most impacted. They will lead the path to a just transition."

The Climate Summit also followed last month's release of a major report on climate published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The report states that human-produced emissions will significantly increase the risk of "severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts" to the environment in the decades ahead. These environmental impacts (e.g., flooding, heat waves, reduced grain production, and thawing snowpack in the poles) are likely to escalate unless greenhouse gases are regulated with uniform benchmarks set by national gov-

ernments, according to the report.

"At this point, the urgency of climate change is well documented, so now, it's time to act," said Laura Xiao '17, who helped lead the organizing team at the College for the march. "The march on Sunday was for the record books, and we're eager to see how this momentum and excitement will boost the Middlebury Climate Campaign this year."

Led by Xiao and others in Sunday Night Group (SNG), Middlebury's enduring environmental activism umbrella campaign, began planning for the march over the summer.

"We were on conference calls in mid-July, already thinking about buses, vans, lodging, recruitment, fundraising, and grant writing for the march," Xiao said. "First, we focused our efforts on the College's newest students, the members of the Class of 2018."

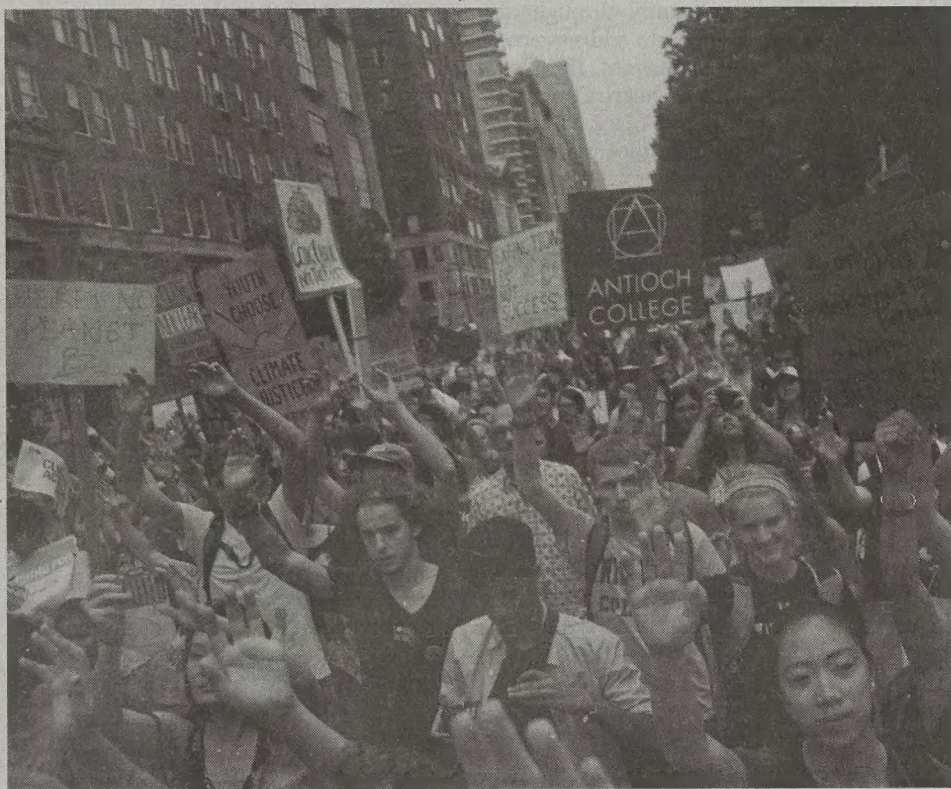
Michael Shrader '18 from Bristol, Va. was one of the first to reach out about interest in the march and recruitment at the College. "Since my interests lie primarily in environmentalism and politics, I was ready to get started as soon as I made it to campus," Shrader said. "The

final result in New York was greater than anyone could have anticipated, and the voice of the climate movement was surely heard."

Boston-area resident Ethan Reilly '17, who joined Shrader and the rest of the Middlebury contingent at the march Sunday, was inspired by the throngs of marchers snaking through the city.

"The feeling of solidarity was just unbelievable," Reilly said. "Seeing a crowd so large and diverse affirmed for me that anthropogenic climate change is an issue that people everywhere take very seriously. I am confident the march sent a resounding message to the U.N. going into the summit Tuesday."

Moving into the third week of classes, students of SNG are hopeful that those who brought the noise in Manhattan will channel their enthusiasm through initiatives back on campus. "This is one of the most exciting moments in the climate movement in my four years here," Hannah Bristol '14.5 said. "The march was beautiful and showed how diverse and intersectional this movement is. I can't wait to see how that energy transfers back to campus."



140 Middlebury Students marched in the People's Climate March on Sunday, September 23rd in New York City. Over 400,000 people participated in event.

JusTalks Now in FYS

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"Most seminars have some sort of social justice orientation. These seminars are good starting points because they do have connections. First-years will hopefully be able to make the connections between the JusTalks discussion sections and the seminars they're in," Molly McShane '16.5, another JusTalks coordinator, said.

First Year Seminars with the JusTalks component include Associate Professor of American Studies Susan Burch's Disability, Different, and Society course, Assistant Professor of History Maggie Clinton's Fascism and Masculinity, 1919-1945 course, Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography Kacy McKinney's Global Youth course, Assistant Professor of Political Science Kemi Fuentes-George's Globalization course, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Literature Victor Valcik's Narratives of Identity course.

Over the summer, the JusTalks members worked to create a new curriculum that would complement the First-Year Seminar syllabus. The curriculum, unlike for the previous J-Term events, was developed with no outside consultants.

"We've reached out to professors to help give us information about their classes, and then we adjusted those to help us figure out what would be best for the first-years and what sorts of activities we could do with them," McShane said. "Professors

have been extremely helpful in helping form our curriculum," she continued.

Although only five out of around 40 First Year Seminars have these JusTalks discussion groups, the numbers did not come as a surprise. Originally the JusTalks members reached out to around seven or eight seminars specifically that they felt would work well with their methodology. However, the issue of making the JusTalks discussions mandatory was most difficult.

"I think a lot of professors felt protective of their students' time and recognized that freshmen are busy and oftentimes overwhelmed," McCreary said. "I don't recall any professors having an ideological resistance."

According to both McShane and McCreary, the process to make a student-run entity like JusTalks a mandatory program would be a long one.

"I think this is another step in a long push to make this something that every freshman participates in. We're hoping that this structure of attaching it to a First Year Seminar will work in a really positive way," McCreary said.

"It's really incredible to think that for some of the first-years whom we'll be working with this fall, this will be the only time that they engage deeply with people who aren't on their team or on their hall. I think it's so important to make [a program like JusTalks] mandatory," McShane said.

Sculpture Adds to Campus

By Nicole Caci

At the conclusion of Summer Language Schools, Middlebury College added a new sculpture to its Northern edge. The sculpture, J Pindyck Miller's "Youbie Obie", resides in between Le Chateau, the Atwater Suites and Coffrin Hall. The College's Committee on Art in Public Places, also known as CAPP, carefully picked the location of this statue.

"Students will be coming at it from all different directions," explained Emmie Donadio, Chief Curator of the Middlebury College Museum of Art.

"The work also, because of its form, looks something like a gate. So it can also serve metaphorically as a gateway to this segment of campus," Donadio added.

While some may view the work as a gate, it is undoubtedly open to a multitude of other interpretations, thoughts and emotions.

"You will discover how the pieces, rather the parts, of the sculpture interact with each other," Miller said about "Youbie Obie". "Every curve, every line, every angle, every juncture is there for a reason."

Miller's "looking machine", a term he uses to describe all of his artwork, was

generously donated to Middlebury College by a couple from Greenwich, Connecticut. The couple had owned Youbie Obie since the 1970s, but felt the piece deserved to be on display elsewhere, in order to elicit wonder and amazement from more people. They could not think of a more appropriate place than the artist's own alma mater.

As students welcome this new sculpture to campus, they should be reminded of what a great metaphor not only Youbie Obie is, but also art in its entirety.

"Art is all search and invention and as with life itself, the things that are questions are always more compelling than the things that are known," Miller said.

The College has a public art collection, which, as of now, is comprised of 19 pieces of art, mostly sculptures, that can be viewed around campus.

All pieces that are a part of the collection are maintained by the Committee on Art in Public Places. In 1994, per the Committee's recommendation, the Board of Trustees approved a "One Percent for Art" policy. The approval of this decision meant that funds would be secured for the purchase, installation and maintenance of any sculptures or pieces of art that fall into the Public Art category.



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

The newest addition to the College's Public Art Collection, "Youbie Obie" a cor-ten steel sculpture by J. Pindyck Miller, class of 1960, was installed near the Chateau.

Middlebury Alum Held in Syria, Now Free

By Jason Zhang

Peter Theo Curtis, a Middlebury alum who graduated in 1991 with a degree in literary studies, came to the spotlight in late August after he was released by a militant group affiliated with Al Qaeda. He was kept in captivity for more than 22 months in Syria by the militant group Jabhat al-Nusra or by splinter groups allied with Jabhat al-Nusra, according to his family.

An initial investigation by Curtis' family and colleagues show that Curtis crossed the border into Syria with a guide that betrayed him and handed him to an extremist group Ahrar al-Sham, who later handed him to al-Nusra Front. (Jabhat al-Nusra).

At several points during his captivity, the militant group made several videos with Curtis, who asked for the immediate actions from the United States government to save his life. In the video, Curtis appeared to read from a script on the ground. In another video, Curtis stated that he is in good health while being kept there.

The release was made possible by the effort from the Qatari government. Relatives of Mr. Curtis said they felt as if an avenue of communication had been opened as soon as Qatar became involved. The Qatari government offered crucial information to Curtis' family quickly after stepping in.

After getting introduced to the Qatar government by the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power, the family was able to ask a proof-of-life question to Mr. Curtis, which was answered correctly. The question, "what is the subject of your Ph.D dissertation?" is one that only Curtis himself could have answered. (Answer: a museum started by the mother of the novelist Anthony Trollope.)

Qatar had successfully negotiated the release of multiple European citizens kidnapped by Al Qaeda's branch in Yemen, before the U.S. Ambassador, Samantha Power, introduced her Qatari counterpart to Curtis' family.

Curtis' family stated that the Qatari government told them no ransom was paid for the release of Curtis. The no-ransom principle was confirmed by the White House's answer to questions regarding Curtis' release.

Curtis' release drew attention after the decapitation of the American journalist, James Foley. Foley's murder prompted the U.S. to take further actions against ISIS. Several European nations have paid sums averaging multi-millions of dollars to secure the release of their citizens. Qatar played a role in successfully negotiating the release of numerous westerners for ransom.

Terrorist groups have collected tens of millions of dollars through the ransom payment. Holding hostages of westerners for ransom has become a popular conduct among militant groups ranging from Yemen in the Arabic peninsula to Mali in Africa. According to *The New York Times*, European nations have paid more than 125 million dollars in ransom to the direct affiliate of al Qaeda.

Curtis speaks fluent Arabic and French, and he also speaks German and Russian. He grew to love Syria a decade ago when he studied Arabic and Russian in Damascus.

Mr. Curtis has written two books. The first book, called *My Life [Had] Stood a Loaded Gun*, is about disaffected youth in the US while working as a teacher in the Vermont prison system. The second, *Undercover Muslim*, published in the U.K., discusses disaffected young men from the West coming to study Islam.

College Holds Ferguson Talks

By Lily Sawyer

On Wednesday, Sept. 17, the College's Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE) held a Teach-In to discuss the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. The room was packed to standing room, as students and faculty listened to the panel and engaged in discussion.

Roberto Lint Sagarena, Director of the CCSRE, began the teach-in with a brief chronology of the events that transpired in Ferguson on the day of the shooting and days thereafter.

In addition to his basic timeline of events, Sagarena addressed the differences between the police and witness reports surrounding the circumstances regarding Brown's death, as well as the pure chaos that erupted in the community following the shooting, including the issues surrounding the media.

Sagarena closed with the results of a Pew Research Poll of 1,000 adults that was conducted in the middle of the protests. There were stark racial and political divisions in the reactions to the shooting, as 80 percent of African Americans surveyed said that the shooting "raised important issues about race" while 47 percent of whites said that the issue of race "was getting more attention than it deserves." Similarly, 68 percent of Democrats thought that the incident raised important issues of race compared to 40 percent of Independents and 22 percent of Republicans.

Associate Professor of History William Hart addressed the issue of historical precedent – more specifically, the history of violence between police and black civilians. He drew upon a study conducted by Stanford professor and MacArthur Genius Grant recipient Jennifer Eberhardt, in which she determined that "the blacker a defendant looks, the more likely it was that the defendant would receive the death penalty if the victim was white," and concluded that "it's almost as if people are thinking of blackness as a crime."

Hart explained that throughout Ameri-

can history, there is evidence to support the preconditioning towards blackness versus whiteness. If whiteness is viewed as law and privilege,

"The converse would be blackness as crime," he explained.

He looked back as far as the colonial era,

in which laws were meant for white colonists, not for those of color. Progressing through-out history, he explained that police officers either facilitated, or did not hinder, the lynching of African American men and women.

Hart then asserted that many urban uprisings in the 20th century were due to police violence, concluding that historically, relations between the black community and the law have been uneasy at best.

Dean of Faculty Development and Research and Rehnquist Professor of American History James Ralph picked up where Hart left off, discussing various attempts by the African American community throughout history to organize in order to address economic, civil, and social injustices. He used the creation of the National Negro Congress in the 1930s as well as the Black Panther Party in the 1960s as examples of efforts to combat oppression and protect African American interests.

Ralph then examined the role of law enforcement during these times, explaining that in the South especially, the police had directly supported segregation. Ralph encouraged us to think of the implications Ferguson may have on the future, suggesting we ask what will come of the Ferguson protests and unrest.

"Is this the beginning of a mass mobilization?" he asked, adding that it has attracted not only national but also international attention.

Assistant Professor of Sociology Rebecca Tiger was last to speak. She first addressed the issue of focusing on the militarization of the police force.

"The militarization of police is significant, but not necessarily for the reasons we

have been hearing about," Tiger said.

Tiger asserted that a large part of the militarization of the police is asset forfeiture. As a part of a 1984 crime control bill, Tiger explained if someone is stopped because they are suspected to have committed a crime, their on-person assets can be seized and not returned to them even if they are not charged or found guilty of a crime. Any money they have can be confiscated, and it is not going to be returned to them even if no crime was committed unless they start judicial proceedings, which are very expensive.

The seized assets, which are supposed to go to schools, end up going to police departments and help fund this militarization of the police. Ultimately, Tiger explained, the Ferguson residents are paying for the police to use militarized equipment on them.

Tiger urged the audience to think of the militarization of the police force as a part of "mundane routines of degradation that happen in the criminal justice system," warning us that focusing on the militarization of police may result in missing the broader issue.

"We have to start having some serious questions about the police," Tiger declared. "What role do the police have? Fundamental questions about what their function is. Not questions about how they can be better or more responsive to the community."

"[We need to] start thinking a little more carefully and critically about what it is that we are actually protesting," Tiger said. "Because when we take these things all together, you can see that this is the end result of policies and criminal justice practices that have led to this...dispossession of certain segments of the population."

The floor then opened for questions and discussion. Students and faculty engaged the speakers and each other in dialogue, addressing issues ranging from Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson to the GoFundMe page in support of Officer Wilson that raised over \$430,000.

"Do we have the same sort of deep, dense networks of organizations working together...to help put pressure on the political actors in the country so that there can be ongoing sustained work that brings about social change?" Ralph asked.

Hart explained that Ferguson is a relatively new predominantly black community and hasn't yet had time to establish these networks.

Katz Researches Tolstoy's Family

By Ethan Brady

Most fans of literature associate Leo Tolstoy with his almost universally identifiable *War and Peace* and regard him as one of the greatest authors of the modern era. One of Tolstoy's later works, however, *The Kreutzer Sonata*, had been cast far out of the spotlight for what was, at the time, perceived to be a radical, almost crazed presentation of sexual abstinence and jealous fury—a presentation that illuminated the rather silent marital distress between Tolstoy and his wife.

Recently, Michael Katz, the C.V. Starr Professor Emeritus of Russian and Eastern European Studies added his own name to the list of those interested in this curious, mysterious aspect of Tolstoy's life. In an unprecedented exploration of the other half of the story behind Tolstoy's 1889 *Kreutzer Sonata*, Katz has translated into English the previously neglected counter-stories written in direct response to Tolstoy's novella.

Presented from the point of view of a middle-aged man who, in a rage of jealousy and disgust of his teenage wife, murders her, *The Kreutzer Sonata* is taken to present Tolstoy's own views about sexual abstinence and marriage.

Katz's journey began at a conference he went to at Tolstoy's estate just outside of Moscow. There he heard about two unpublished stories written by Tolstoy's wife, Sophie, and was instantly intrigued.

"She thought that her own marriage was being described by *The Kreutzer Sonata*, or rather that everyone who read it would think so," Katz said.

Her fears were not unfounded: she was half of Tolstoy's age when she married him, and other parallels between Tolstoy's characters and his own friends and family existed. So she wrote her own variation of her husband's novella, following its structure with a wife who, half the age of her husband, is murdered by him.

In the manuscript of Sophia's first story, *Whose Fault?*, located in the archives in Moscow, Sophia wrote in the margins quotations from her husband's story that she was simultaneously disagreeing with in the text itself. In response to his mother, Tolstoy's son then wrote his own version of the original story, in effect polemicalizing both his mother and father.

Katz first translated Sophia's two stories and then Tolstoy's son's story.

"I didn't know I was going to translate the original *Kreutzer Sonata* when I started, but it was terrific to struggle with a text by Leo Tolstoy, a text that was famous, controversial, and provocative. That was the last one that I did—I saved up," Katz said.

He also stressed the interconnectedness of the Tolstoy family's stories.

"My argument is that all of these stories are in dialogue; the wife and the son are replying to the things that the father says," he said.

The preliminary title for Katz's translation, therefore, is "The Tolstoy Family Story Contest".

"The publisher didn't think that was very funny," Katz said.

Other Russian scholars have translated Tolstoy's original story before, but

Katz was the first to undertake the wife's and son's stories.

"It was very exciting. It was the first project I did after retirement, and this was a wonderful way to start that," Katz said. "It gave me the opportunity to go to Russia twice. And the support—for a research assistant, for going to conferences, for buying books that I needed in order to conduct the research—the College gave me a great deal of support."

Katz was also nominated by the College to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and received a Mellon Emeritus Fellowship to support his work, allowing him to travel to Russia and research in archives and museums. Part of the fellowship is also financing Katz's attendance at a conference in Russia in which he will present his findings throughout the process to his colleagues there. The response from Katz's colleagues so far, he says, has been excellent.

When asked what he thought was the most significant aspect of *The Kreutzer Sonata* is, he stressed the dissent of Tolstoy's wife.

"I think it establishes Sophia Tolstoy as a figure in her own right. She writes well—she's not a great writer like Tolstoy himself or like Dostoevsky—but she's clear, she has her own ideas, she defends the right of a woman to seek happiness within a marriage and not just be an instrument of man's sexual desire. She's taking on a big fish; you don't disagree with Tolstoy—easily, at least. He was by then probably the world's best-known writer. He was an incredible figure. And she takes him on."

MiddAction Fair Draws Crowd

By Sophie Kapica
and Sarah Koenigsberg

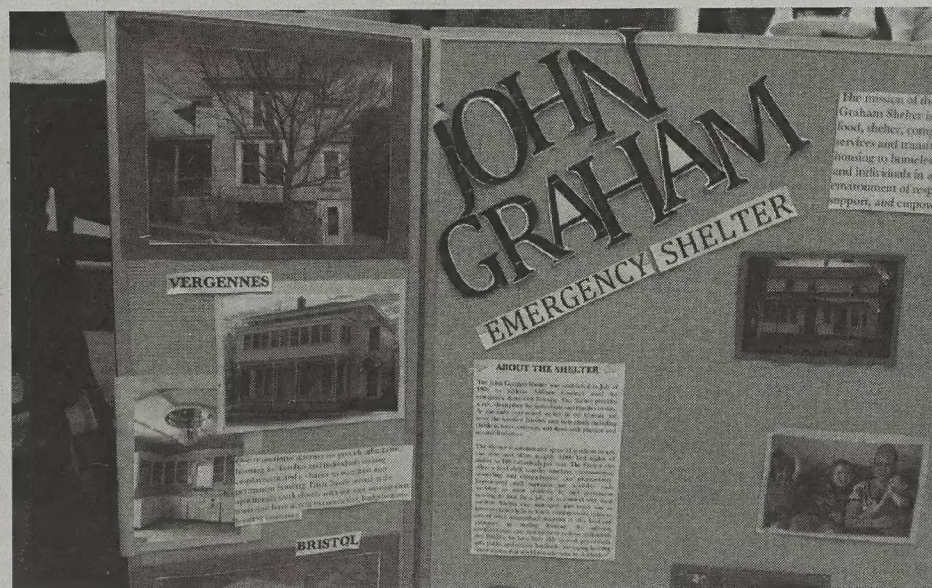
Middlebury College hosted the MiddAction Fair in the Wilson Social Space on Sept. 16. Community volunteer organizations from Middlebury and surrounding towns came to connect with students interested in offering their time to valuable causes. The organizations that came to the fair had a wide variety of goals that ranged from caring for the elderly to providing education for members of the local community.

Everybody Wins, a Vermont state children's mentoring organization, has a branch in Middlebury's Mary Hogan Elementary. Student and adult mentors are matched one-on-one for an hour of reading, mentorship and bonding each week.

"The children love feeling like an adult is really paying attention to them, and they really love having college students" said one adult mentor. "I almost feel bad because I see how excited they get with the college students, and my kid is stuck with me!"

The children sign up for the program, so they are always enthusiastic to meet with their mentors. There is a waiting list for mentors, so volunteers are always welcome.

Foxcroft Farm, based in Leicester, Vermont, is a harvest program that offers educational services for youth. The participants range from preschool students to seniors



The John Graham Emergency Shelter was one of the many organizations at the fair.

for parents, and could use Middlebury College students to help teach an English or Math class.

"Most of our families come from poverty," said one representative, "so they don't know what it's like to walk into a place where thirty people are kind to them. We're built like a house, and that's for a reason; we look like a home."

Middlebury's Bridge School, an inde-

pendent not-for-profit elementary school located on Exchange Street, is looking for Middlebury students who love kids and wish to work with them on a variety of activities.

"We do a wide range of things and we have a lot of flexibility," said Cynthia Clarke, one of the school's full-time staff members. Volunteers can help with academics or just be there to play.

"We look for someone who likes to have fun and be with kids. What they want to do, they can talk to me about and we can make it happen," said Joe Schine, also a teacher at the school.

The Willowell Foundation, based on 230 acres of land in Monkton, is a non-profit that focuses on connecting people to the environment and the arts. It provides numerous land-based education programs, including Farm to School, a national effort to expose students to the sources of their food. Students help out in community gardens that grow food served in their cafeterias. The Foundation also operates the sail freight project, a freight barge that takes Vermont products to New York City via the Hudson River in order to promote carbon neutral transportation. A number of Middlebury students have helped out with the sail freight project in the past, and students are welcome to aid with the Foundation's numerous educational programs as well.

Located in Vergennes, the John W. Graham Emergency Shelter provides housing, food, and support to families with children, the sick, the elderly, the mentally ill and those struggling with or recovering from drug addictions. The Shelter helps families and individuals eventually get back on their own feet. Clinicians also regularly come to



Boards displayed the many volunteering opportunities for Middlebury students.

in high school. Different programs are targeted at specific age groups. The mission of the organization is to "develop, support and sustain effective and affordable educational opportunities for youth that will help them to be independent, productive, responsible, caring and contributing members of their community." Middlebury students can primarily help by being good role models while participating in programs with children. However, the organization could also use help with fundraising, grant writing and events.

HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects) is dedicated to providing services to those who live in poverty. In addition to operating a food bank in Addison County, the organization runs a thrift store, owns low income housing sites, offers financial counseling and deals with homeless case management. HOPE is a privately funded organization and therefore has the freedom to choose the kind of help they want to provide. Oftentimes, the organization works with people to accommodate needs that are not covered by government programming. Based in Middlebury, HOPE looks for dedicated Middlebury students to help out with all of its projects.

The Addison County Parent/Child Center aims to get "young families off to the right start." As the name implies, the Center offers programs for both parents and children. Through its childcare program, the Center hopes to build each child's self esteem, resiliency skills, self-control and initiative. With only two teachers available to run its nine programs, volunteers create more opportunities for children to have one-on-one attention. The Center also provides classes

for parents, and could use Middlebury College students to help teach an English or Math class.

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Living Well Bristol is a residential care facility in Bristol offering holistic eldercare. They strive to care for the bodies, minds, and souls of senior citizens, whom they offer all organic food and various fun activities including tai chi and musical events. Living Well Bristol aims to bring the local community back to taking care of and cherishing elders. There are no fees for senior citizens to come to the center, and many of those who come have disabilities or are low-income. The organization believes that every Vermont elder deserves excellent healthcare and housing. Middlebury students can get involved with Living Well Bristol by volunteering their time to do activities with senior citizens, as well as simply keeping them company.



DITCHING THE DINING HALL

By Madsy Schneider

On a recent Sunday, two girlfriends and I went to the Starry Night Café for dinner. Having heard from many sources (including Jim in the Proctor bakeshop) that it was one of the best restaurants in the area, we were anxious to try it. He was not wrong. After learning that it had reopened following extensive renovations, we finally had the chance to try it.

We arrived at the café around 6:15 p.m. and were immediately struck by its charm. Located on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh, right next to Vermont Flannel, the outside is warm and inviting with a large oak door and sign carved with stars. Inside, the atmosphere is cozy yet elegant. The walls are tastefully decorated with photographs of Vermont scenes, and the tables are set with small vases of freshly cut wild flowers. The hostess seated us in the circular "back room," the quieter and more dimly lit of three small dining spaces. This back room's interior felt more like a living room than a fine restaurant. Surprisingly full for a Sunday evening, the café lent itself to quiet conversation, with only soft piano music playing unobtrusively in the background.

The lovely ambience, however, is only a small part of the charm of the Starry Night Café. The true delight, as with any fine restaurant, is the food, which can only really be described as absolutely incredible. Simple, yet expertly prepared, the offerings here feature only the freshest local ingredients. When we went, corn was a pervasive theme, wholly consistent with the acres of fields we passed on the drive over; it was added to garnishes and slipped into salsas. The menu as a whole, although not large, features innovative and exciting dishes like a harissa spiced bouillabaisse, as well as more familiar entrees like a cider braised pork loin accompanied by blue cheese mashed potatoes and apple bacon.

Indeed, the only challenge in navigating the menu at the Starry Night Café was deciding what to choose. After enjoying a basket of complimentary freshly baked bread (it came to the table still steaming), we sampled a golden beet salad and a blue cheese salad with a light, tangy citrus dressing. Following that, we tried a lobster and avocado tostada that was not nearly as tasty, yet may have been doomed to fail seeing as those eating it were from Maine and California respectively.

This blunder, however, was easily remedied and quickly forgotten when our entrees arrived a mere five minutes after we had finished our appetizers. Our choices were delicious and substantial: a grilled Misty Knoll chicken breast served with a local corn salsa and cheddar cheese grits (authentic enough to make my southern father proud) and a vegetarian corn and Brie risotto whose rice was perfectly al-dente. The generous portions were a rarity for restaurants of this caliber.

Unsurprisingly, the large, high-quality entrees did not prevent us from sampling three different dessert offerings. We indulged in a blueberry cobbler served with a homemade peach ice cream, an ethereal Godiva chocolate mousse (with a subtle hint of mint) and a classic vanilla cheesecake, ending the evening on a sweet note.

The Starry Night café is a gem, but it is hardly a place to go on a whim, as it is a commitment of time and money and requires a certain level of decorum. With the typical patrons solidly rooted in the one percent and the well-into-their-fifties crowd, it is not a place where one can laugh loudly, wear denim or burp. It is, however, the perfect restaurant for parent's weekend, especially due to the price. Far from snooty, it simply asks of its clientele that they exhibit the same qualities as the product they will be served: grace, class and, above all, good taste.

I-89 Faces Future Budget Constraints

By Haley Tetreault

Funding for maintenance and repairs on I-89 was slashed this year, according to state officials. The decrease in funds can be attributed to the downgrade in Vermont's fiscal budget this July, by \$31 million, as well as decreased revenue from the "gas tax," as consumers switch to more fuel-efficient vehicles and drive less often.

Convincing commuters to use more environmentally friendly methods of transportation, such as buses and hybrid cars, is a key facet of Governor Shumlin's push for 90 percent renewable energy by 2050.

However, the green revolution sweeping the state and the early steps the administration has taken are starting to threaten the infrastructure of old. The gasoline tax is the main source of funding for bridge and road maintenance for both Vermont and the federal government.

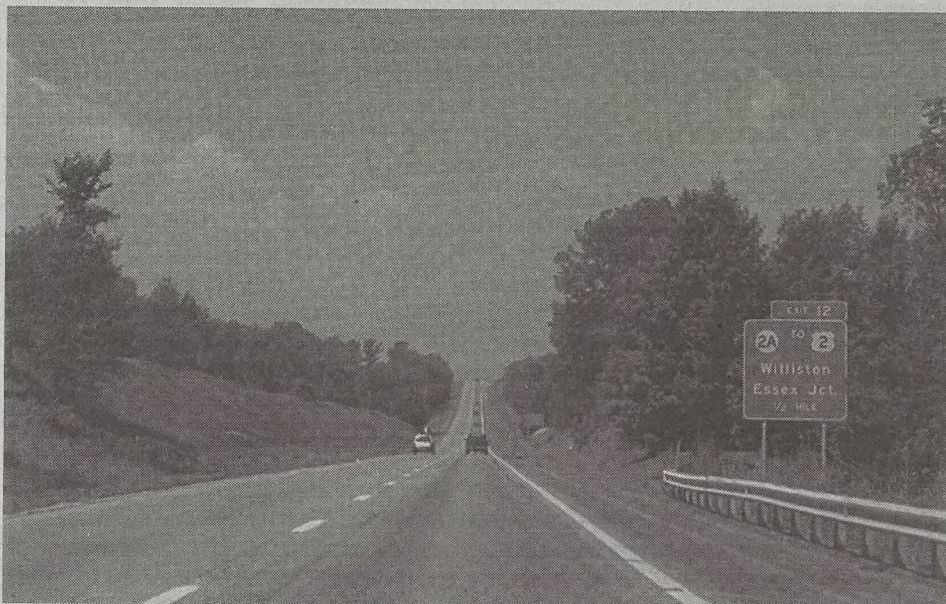
As gas sales have steadily declined, funding for both federal and state transportation agencies has experienced a round of budget cuts, and officials say that such fiscal problems could signal more trouble for the future.

"Unfortunately with our current revenue stream, [saving gas] has a negative impact on our ability to invest in improving the roads and bridges on which [Vermonters] drive," Deputy Secretary Sue Minter said.

Economists for the state say that the revenue from the gas tax will come in \$2.5 million less than expected. The downgrade is below one percent of an approximately \$700 million transportation budget.

"It's not a huge deal, but it's one we must respond to, and immediately go to thinking about the long term, and what sort of model replaces the gas tax over time," Secretary of Transportation Brian Searles said.

The Federal Highway Trust Fund — the money that supports more than half of highway funding here in Vermont —



COURTESY DAVID PAKMAN

Most Middlebury students from the greater Boston area take I-89 to the College.

nearly dried up last August, but Congress approved stopgap funding meant to keep highway project schedules on track until May of 2015. Thus, Vermonters and Middlebury students may experience firsthand the infrastructure budget cuts next summer.

Currently, there is no plan to supply funding to the projects and maintenance that have already been planned. Searles said that the future of transportation funding is anything but secure. The Federal Highway Trust Fund is expected to run out by the beginning of Vermont's busy summer construction season, and Searles says that federal lawmakers

aren't even close to settling upon a plan that would restore long-term stability to transportation revenues.

"Unfortunately with our current revenue stream, [saving gas] has a negative impact on our ability to invest in improving the roads and bridges on which they drive."

SUE MINTER

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

their driving habits to scrutiny by the government in order to pay for the transportation system," Searles said.

The revenue problems aren't unique to Vermont. Searles says that Congress will need to adopt an alternative revenue structure if it hopes to raise enough money to maintain its current road and bridge infrastructure. One such idea would be to employ tollbooths or track the number of miles a vehicle travels.

Still, "It's going to be a long national conversation before we ever get to the point where people are willing to submit

G.M.O. Labeling Law Challenged

By Isabelle Dietz

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin is facing a serious ramification for a GMO labeling bill he recently passed, in the form of a major lawsuit. The bill on genetically modified food products (GMOs), approved this past spring, will require GMOs sold in Vermont to be labeled by July 1, 2016. Vermont will be the first state to implement GMO labeling. Four national organizations filed a lawsuit on June 12th over this GMO labeling law (also known as Act 120), because they claim that GMOs do not need to be declared to consumers, as they do not affect customer safety or health.

"Vermont's mandatory GMO labeling law — Act 120 — is a costly and misguided measure that will set the nation on a path toward a 50-state patchwork of GMO labeling policies that do nothing to advance the health and safety of consumers," the Grocery Manufacturers Association said in a statement about the lawsuit.

Governor Shumlin signed Act 120 into law in May, after the Vermont House approved it by a margin of 114-30 in April. The bill specifies that any product "partially produced with genetic engi-

neering," that "may be produced with genetic engineering" or is "produced with genetic engineering," will be considered a GMO, and encompasses all food products in Vermont. Sixty countries currently require GMOs to be labeled.

"I am proud of Vermont for being the first state in the nation to ensure that Vermonters will know what is in their food," Shumlin said in a statement at the time.

"Act 120 imposes burdensome new speech requirements — and restrictions — that will affect, by Vermont's count, eight out of every ten foods at the grocery store."

GROCERY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON ACT 120

Roughly 60 to 70 percent of processed foods in the United States contain genetically modified materials. Yet, only half of citizens understood that GMOs are sold in grocery stores, and under a quarter believed they had ever eaten GMOs.

The World Health Organization (WHO) states that GMOs should be assessed on a "case by case basis," because "it is not possible to make general statements on the safety of all GMO foods."

Act 120 was passed with the hope of making food information more transparent to customers. However, many argue that such transparency is unnecessary when GMOs have not been definitely proved as harmful.

"Act 120 imposes burdensome new speech requirements — and restrictions — that will affect, by Vermont's count, eight out of every ten foods at the gro-

cery store," the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) said in a statement. "Vermont has effectively conceded this law has no basis in health, safety or science. That is why a number of product categories, including milk, meat, restaurant items and alcohol, are exempt from the law. This means that many foods containing GMO ingredients will not actually disclose that fact."

The four plaintiff organizations that are arguing that the new law is unconstitutional are the GMA, the Snack Food Association, the International Dairy Foods Association and the National Association of Manufacturers.

Their lawsuit argues that the 2016 deadline for Act 120 is a difficult one for the plaintiffs to meet, and one that might require them to revise labels for every single product — even those not sold in Vermont. In addition, the lawsuit points out that since 1994 the FDA has confirmed the safety of more than 100 genetically engineered crops for human consumption.

The plaintiffs are also arguing that GMO regulation resides within the domain of federal, not state, laws.

"The Act exceeds Vermont's authority under the United States Constitution. The Act should be invalidated and enjoined in its entirety," the lawsuit argues.

Even last spring when the GMO bill was passed, lawmakers were aware that it would probably be contested in court. Attorney General William Sorrel said last Thursday that he had told lawmakers that the lawsuit would be "a heck of a fight, but we would zealously defend the law."

LOCAL LOWDOWN

25

Henna Presentation in Bristol

Like tattoos, but afraid of commitment? Henna artist Bridget Bartlett will lead a presentation this Thursday entitled "Henna: History, Culture and Rituals" in Bristol. Ms. Bartlett will demonstrate how the art is created, and will speak about the history of the ancient art. For more information, call 802-453-2366, or go to www.onelibraryproject.org.

SEPT. 25, 7 - 8:30 P.M.

Apple Pie Contest in Bristol

Leaves are turning, the weather is getting colder, and apple pies are finally back! If you bake them, consider entering the "Best Ever Apple Pie Contest" in Bristol, at the Bristol Harvest Festival. Drop off your entry on Saturday morning (by 10am). The pies will be judged on appearance, crust, and 'innards.' For more information call 802-453-5885.

SEPT. 27, 10 A.M.-4 P.M.

The Doughboys Concert in Brandon

Want to (re)live the summer of love? Middlebury College's faculty rockband, "The Doughboys," will be covering classic tunes from Paul Simon and The Grateful Dead, as well as jamming on their own original songs at Brandon Town Hall this Friday. The recent addition of a horn section allows them to cover R&B as well! Tickets are 8 dollars in advance, sold at Carr's Florist & Gifts, or 10 dollars at the door.

SEPT. 27, 7:30 - 9:30 P.M.

Loud and Proud Benefit Concert

On July 28th, 2012, Vermonter Conrad F. Bell was murdered. This Saturday, four bands performing at the "Loud and Proud Benefit for Conrad F. Bell" will help raise money for the Conrad F. Bell Memorial Trust Fund, which supports Conrad's two daughters. The Metal Band Amadis, Cousin Irt, Quest for Unison and Twist of Fate will all perform. Tickets cost 10 dollars per person. For more information on the event, please call 802-425-2722.

SEPT. 27, 4:30 P.M.

50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

"Where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor and does not remain." This is one sentence from the historic Wilderness Act of 1964, in which the United States Congress formally granted the highest level of protection for National Parks across America. Head on over to the Middlebury College Bread Loaf campus to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the historic law, with live music and pizza served by Open Hearth Pizza. For more information call 802-747-6775 or email jenniferwright@fs.fed.us

SEPT. 28, 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

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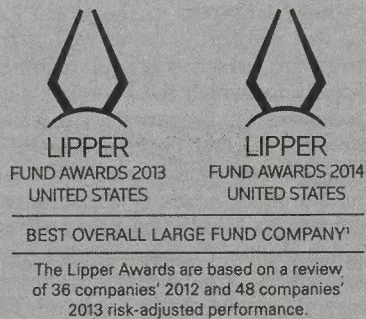
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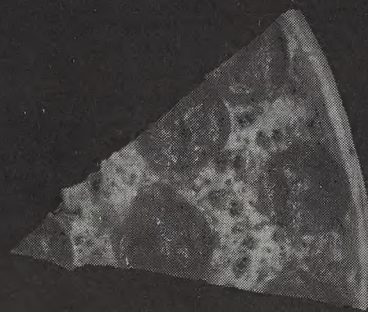
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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Mistakes Were Made

From SGA to Community Council, we have a system of student liaisons to the administration whose key purpose is to keep the two groups on the same page. Yet last week we were all surprised to receive an email announcing that alcohol would no longer be allowed at tailgating events. Though students are all over the map on the policy itself, we on the Editorial Board reflect this divide, but we all agree that this process

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

was flawed. The decision came directly out of the athletics department, bypassing and undermining student organizations, which are

meant to represent the student body's interests in exactly this type of decision. If the administration wonders why it is receiving such negative feedback, it is because it has failed to properly communicate with the student body. They are treating the student body more like a group of sixteen-year-olds than adults. The email from President Liebowitz, Dean Collado and Director of Athletics Erin Quinn on Sept. 23 acknowledges this failure to communicate, but actions speak louder than words, and what matters is how they will act differently going forward.

There are many other, more transparent paths this could have taken. First, directly following the unacceptable behavior prompting this policy, Erin Quinn, Director of Athletics, should have sent out a message calling out what had happened. He should not have deliberated over this decision for almost a year, as indicated in his email, without ever seriously petitioning for student input. Though the Sept. 23 email mentions consulting Community Council, evidently it was not a thorough enough discussion for the SGA and the rest of the student body to not be blindsided six months later. Quinn should have suggested the policy change and gone to student (and faculty) forums to modify his ideas and brainstorm other ways of dealing with the problem.

The lack of communication shows that the administration does not have confidence in the student body. This could have been an

opportunity for students to step up and be more conscious of their actions, which they might have done to preserve tailgating. This disconnect is clear in that by and large, the student body was not aware that the behavior at these events was troublesome, but the Sept. 23 email illustrates the administration's longstanding concern with tailgating behavior and an inability to self-police. If told that our behavior was out of line, things could have been different. Perhaps students would have found innovative ways to maintain high standards of behavior while still tailgating. The issue at hand here is the lack of discussion and transparency. With one department making a decision for everyone, we are not upholding the ideals of our community.

The loss of tailgating brings questions of Middlebury's identity to the surface — questions that must be answered as a community. We as a school must consider what football games should look like, whether we want to engage in events that encourage day drinking on our campus and whether this decision was, in fact, the best thing for Middlebury students. Although our Editorial Board does not agree on the answers to all these questions, we agree that they were not one person's decision to make; they are questions that belong to the school as a whole.

That being said, we need to take responsibility for engaging in these discussions. The forum on Sept. 21 is an example of a failure on our part. Though the WeTheMiddKids

petition has 2,500 votes, only 20 students attended the forum, letting an opportunity to meaningfully engage slip through our fingers. Being drunk in the dining halls is not an effective way to make your outrage known.

Moreover, the behavior at last year's tailgates was out of line. There is absolutely no excuse for this behavior. Although there are only four tailgates per year, and most alumni and parents attend only one, students must deal with the consequences to a far greater degree. Everyone involved in this has caused the many to be punished by the actions of the few. The egregious actions of all offending parties are far more insulting and disrespectful to the Middlebury community than any miscommunication on the part of the administration.

Everyone has done something wrong, from the administration's failure to communicate to the disrespectful behavior of the students and the alumni at the tailgates. This is an opportunity for us to learn from our mistakes and ensure that going forward, everyone's voices are heard. Student input should not just be lip service. With the Presidential Search Committee and other decision-making bodies with student representation, we need to know we are valued. Tailgating is the hot button issue of the moment, but effective communication will guide Middlebury into era of the College, and we hope to still be proud to call it our alma mater.

The Middlebury Campus

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We Did Not Sign Up for This

In response to the changes in the tailgate policy effective this Tuesday, there have already emerged a number of great arguments against this new policy, and some weaker

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Jack Dolan '15 is an Opinions Editor from Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

and reactions of the administration. I hope this article in opposition to the policy complements those that have come before mine and helps to further explain why we are outraged.

The combination of the policy changes and, in particular, the defense given by Erin Quinn, Director of Athletics, is disheartening. Whether or not you have ever attended a tailgate or an athletic event of any kind, you should be concerned. Here's why:

Firstly, the opaqueness of Mr. Quinn's explanatory letter borders on insulting. Entitlement is a touchy subject on this campus, however it is not unreasonable for students, when addressing the sudden, forced removal of a long-standing and beloved tradition, to demand a serious explanation. Certainly, the College is within its right to abide by the NE-SCAC alcohol policy (even if we are the only school to do so, as *MiddBeat* points out), but such a drastic and abrupt change naturally begs the question: why now?

The gist of Mr. Quinn's answer — "People were behaving badly and it made us look bad; no details, just trust me" — is unacceptable. Such a response would indicate a lack of respect for the affected party even if it were given as initial reasoning, but after being politely pressed for further explanation, the answer becomes a diplomatic way of telling the indignant and bewildered to screw off.

Mr. Quinn cites the Trin-

ity game tailgate on Homecoming weekend as an exceptionally egregious incident. However, the general opinion of students on the Homecoming tailgate and game, who were both on and off the field that day, was overwhelmingly positive. One member of the football team told me it was the best crowd he had ever played in front of. This is not to say that nothing bad happened; I do not know the whole story. However, it does bespeak some serious cognitive dissonance between administrators and students. It also illustrates why seemingly the entire student body did not see this coming.

Furthermore, it is a pernicious precedent to set if the administration simply takes away such a large fixture of student life without due warning or discussion. How confident should we feel in an administration that would rather pass the buck than address an important issue head-on with its students? How comfortable should we feel when that same administration can take away basic elements of student life on what appears to be a whim and do so without much explanation?

But, perhaps what is most worrisome of all is the administration's deep-seated mistrust of the student body evinced by this one-two punch of encroaching legislation and dismissive explanation. While walking us through the thought process leading up to his decision, Mr. Quinn writes that following the end of last football season, he "felt compelled to ask [himself] what we should do to address this situation." However, it appears that this compulsion was not all that strong as, to the best of my recollection, there was no effort to ask us how to proceed in the nine months since. Instead of petitioning us for support as the thoughtful adults we seem to be treated as during the school week, the situa-

tion was addressed through blind-

siding discipline as though we were children or criminals, incapable of being reasoned with and untrustworthy to form a constructive solution.

It is offensive and hypocritical to the utmost degree that administrators would not even consider reaching out to the greater student body for support to address this issue. We have been denied an opportunity to practice the very same values Middlebury proudly trumpets to the world for having so well instilled in us, as well as the ability to govern ourselves as adult members of free society for which the liberal arts education is designed to prepare us. The latter is what brought us to the liberal arts instead of large research universities and the former, this unique set of values, is what brought us specifically to Middlebury. Regardless of how much or little time studying or partying we intended to spend during our stint at the College, the denial of these values is why many of us feel as though we are now at a school for which we did not sign up when admitted.

With all the rebranding efforts taking place over the past few months, it is no secret that Middlebury has become incredibly conscious of its image, possibly more than ever before. Nor is it a secret that fleecing your students of the (read: any) social life they expected at the beginning of their four years is a great way to ruin that image. Squeezing us to the point where we feel that we have to choose between getting a Middlebury education and having a social life somewhere else, works too. What is a secret, however, is why so many of us upperclassmen feel as though, when we reflect on our earliest memories at the College, it sounds like we are describing a completely different school than the one we attend now.

Middlebury students: do not wait until the administrators have gathered their wits enough to invite us to participate in another time-wasting public forum and kill the issue on the stage of Wilson Hall through apathy and political correctness. Seniors, this is our last chance. Voice your opinion now. Share your articles now. Sign your petitions now. Let Middlebury and its former, current and prospective students know we will not let our final year at this school, which we all at one time loved, to be sterilized in the name of a national brand on President Liebowitz's resume. Fight for your right to party. Go Panthers.



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Alienating Alumni

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Derek Schlickeisen '09
lives in Washington, D.C.

To the Editor,
Along with many of my fellow alumni, I read with dismay that alcohol and music have been banned from tailgating at Middlebury athletic events, including Homecoming. It's part of a broader pattern that we have observed with disappointment from afar since graduation, as officials at the College sanitize and red-tape the campus so-

cial scene into virtual non-existence. It now seems that this needless urge to regulate every aspect of life at the College will also extend to alumni during our return visits.

This is exactly the sort of action that will negatively impact alumni views of the way our alma mater is being run and will make us feel disconnected from the institution we knew. I sincerely hope the College's administration reconsiders this move.

Sincerely,
Derek Schlickeisen '09

I'LL JUST DRINK AT HOME

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Zach Drennen '13.5
lives in Washington, D.C.

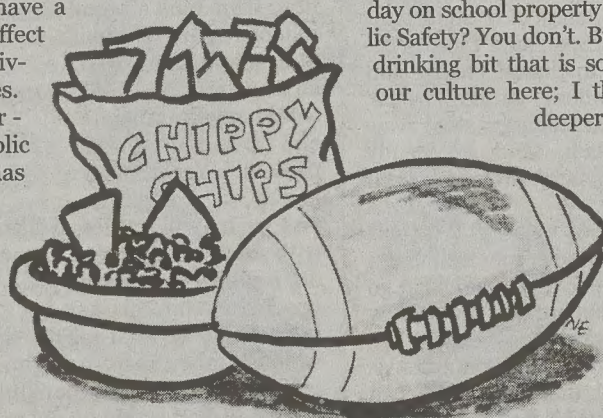
Dear Alumni office,
In response to your invitation, I would love to visit Middlebury for Homecoming but given the College's strict new "no fun at Homecoming" policy, it doesn't quite seem worth the drive. Home-

coming at Middlebury should mean shotgun-sipping a can of Heady Topper while blasting country music on a crappy bluetooth speaker, surrounded by glorious fall foliage and presumably wearing something with the Patagonia logo on it (somewhere in there is some kind of sporting event but I'm not really clear on how that works). If I'm limited to the foliage and freezing temperatures, I might as well stay below the Mason-Dixon Line this fall.

For those alums who do decide to make the trip despite their alma mater's apparent instinct to slowly return to the puritanical customs of the Mayflower colony, enforcement of Middlebury's new "blue laws" will be incredibly difficult. Alumni are almost universally over 21 and likely to be future donors to the college — I assume that's why you send us

emails reminding us to come to Homecoming — and pissing them off won't have a positive effect on your giving rates. Furthermore, "Public Safety" has limited means of enforcement beyond asking politely and then offering citations, a penalty that was laughable as an undergraduate and is now entirely without meaning. Alums whose most recent memory of their college is either being banned from such sensitive areas as the outdoor parking lot next to the football field or having the police called on them are — I would imagine — much less likely to think fondly on Middlebury when the time comes to write a check.

So good luck with that,
Zach Drennen '13.5



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Who Do We Think We Are?

I'm writing this op-ed to express my support for the recently announced tailgating policy, but I'm going to start with a slightly different chord: I love tailgating.

Don't believe me? I once drove from D.C. to New Orleans to attend a tailgate (it was awesome). I have tailgated at schools up and down the east coast, and attended several tailgates in my three-plus years at Middlebury (not quite as awesome).

The point I'm trying to make is that my position is not one of naïveté, disgust or moral superiority. My position is not that tailgates — or the behaviors that tend to occur at tailgates — are in any way bad. They're not. What they are, however, is out of sync with the most positive aspects of the culture here at Middlebury, and that is why I think the policy change is a good move by the administration.

Let's face it: Middlebury just is not a tailgating school. Where else on our campus do you see institutionally sanctioned events at which students drink during the day on school property in full view of Public Safety? You don't. But it's not really the drinking bit that is so incongruous with our culture here; I think it goes much deeper than that.

Here is my theory for why Middlebury students are so incensed by the policy change: we are so used to living vicariously through our friends at larger, more tailgate-friendly schools that we have forgotten where we really are.

The tailgate was a unique opportunity to pretend like you didn't attend a small, academic liberal-arts college in rural Vermont, to pretend that you had accepted that admissions offer from UVA or Michigan instead of the one from Middlebury. We as a campus community are tremendously self-conscious of the fact that we don't have as much fun as our colleagues at many other schools do. That's why we cling so desperately to the tailgates: they were

our lifeline to a cultural idea of 'college' that many of us — myself included — are deeply fearful we are missing out on.

I can only do so much to assuage this fear. It is pretty undeniable that we all gave up the opportunity to do a certain subset of things — join sanctioned Greek life, hang out at a real college bar or, yes, be a tailgate king/queen — when we decided to come to school here. No matter how many first-years your friend manages to pack into his Atwater suite, Middlebury will never appear on a list of top party schools.

What I can do is reassure you that the tradeoff is worth it. There are so many opportunities that we have here that our friends at other schools don't have. Just in the realm of athletics (I am the sports editor, after all), so many of us who compete on the fields, courts, tracks and pools of Middlebury probably wouldn't have the opportunity to do so at other schools. We would be tailgaters.

I insist that this message is not limited to athletics: think about the opportunities in research, scholarship, activism or any of the other areas in which Middlebury students succeed. These opportunities don't exist by accident; they begin with the fact that we have faculty and administrators here who care enough about us students to hold us accountable for the culture that we choose to create. That is where the new policy comes from.

I think the SGA and Campus editorial board are dead-on in asking for more administrative transparency in matters like this. The policy was not brought about in the best way, but that doesn't mean it's not going to have a positive impact on the student body.

So what are you going to do on the afternoon of Oct. 18? Go volunteer in the community, or hike Camel's Hump or do any of the other things that you would have been missing out on at the tailgate. Or you can come down to Alumni Stadium to watch Middlebury take on Bates. I'll be there.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Fritz Parker '15 is a Sports Editor from Arlington, Va.

Sit Down Now, Stand Up Soon

READER OPED

Ian Stewart '14 is lives in Washington, D.C.
Cailey Cron '13.5 is lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Ever since the new tailgating policy was announced, we've been outraged. Outraged at the outrage. In MiddBeat's coverage and subsequent online comments and Jack Dolan's op-ed on the Campus website, there are several troubling trends that demand discussion.

The more dangerous of these tendencies is the way in which the ban's opponents have appropriated the language of social movements, social justice and human rights. MiddBeat's unabashedly slanted reporting (paragraph three kicks off with "What. The. F***?") barely avoids using the words "right" and "liberty" to describe what's at stake. A commenter, "Jenny," wrote: "I'm starting to feel like I'm living in a police state in Middlebury."

The subsequent calls-to-action—which were soon echoed by countless current and former students in the comments section underneath—included suggestions of withholding donations and signing petitions. Of protesting, in other words, an injustice. To use this language when what's at stake is being able to binge drink at a particular time on a patch of privately-owned grass is to dilute the potency of words and ideas that are needed to fight real injustice — some of which is alive and well at Middlebury.

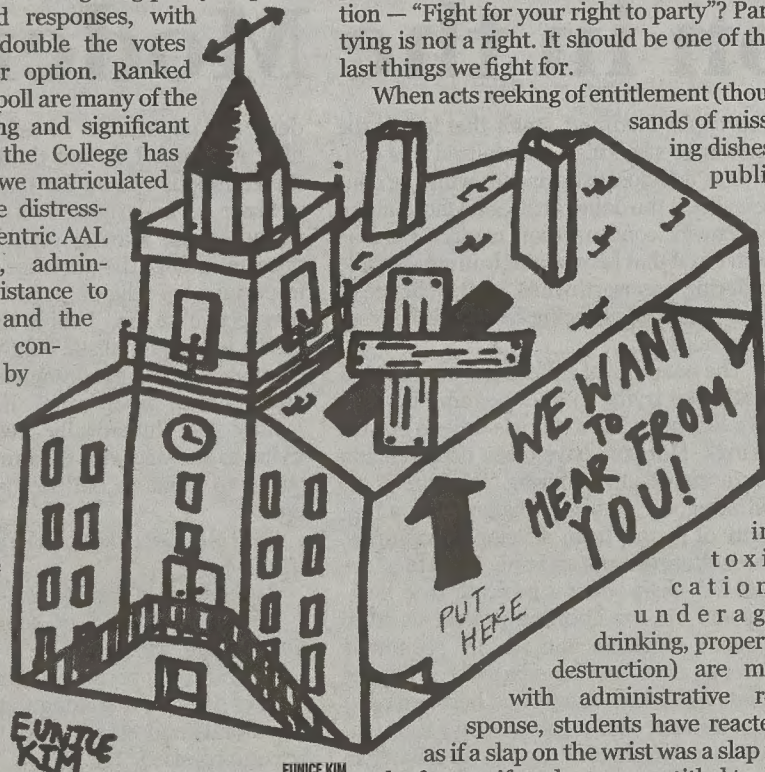
If Middlebury were a place free from significant social issues, the current attempts to reverse the new tailgating restrictions could be seen as clumsy beginners' attempt to make change. In the presence of true inequity, however, the vocabulary of social change and resisting institutional power deserves to be used with discretion and

only after deep consideration. What are these real issues? MiddBeat jogs our weak institutional memory in a poll it recently posted on its site: "What's the most pressing issue on Middlebury's campus right now?" "The new tailgating policy" tops the recorded responses, with more than double the votes of any other option. Ranked lower in the poll are many of the most pressing and significant issues that the College has faced since we matriculated in 2010: the distressingly ethnocentric AAL requirement, administrative resistance to divestment and the hate crime constituted by the specific threat of sexual violence against a queer student. Those are the issues that demand action, that merit dozens upon dozens of online comments, that might justify civil disobedience. Those are "What Middlebury Should Never Forget," as Celeste Allen reminded us in her op-ed last week.

Should the administration have engaged students and/or the SGA before instituting the ban? Yes. Are there questions about social life and alcohol that need discussion? Certainly. But it is distressing to watch (granted, from afar, as recent alum-

ni) students rally behind their "right" to tailgate while so many more critical movements — ones regarding students' physical safety, even — have struggled to get traction. So should it make us think about our priorities? Yes. And Dolan's final exhortation — "Fight for your right to party"? Partying is not a right. It should be one of the last things we fight for.

When acts reeking of entitlement (thousands of missing dishes, public



EUNICE KIM

intoxication, underage drinking, property destruction) are met with administrative response, students have reacted as if a slap on the wrist was a slap in the face, as if students are entitled to do whatever they want, wherever they want.

Students with various minority identities have long described their inability to feel comfortable or "at home" at Middlebury. Now, we're seeing one of the rare times where the "traditional" — as in, "of the majority," not as in "rightfully revered" — MiddKid feels threatened; this issue has hit at the heart of the most comfortable and comforted segment of the student body:

an athletic, mostly-white, predominantly upper-class group.

When "David" comments on MiddBeat, "Tailgates are one of the only places where everyone at the school is invited to come together and have a good time," he's both wrong and missing the point. Certainly, there's no de jure segregation, no entry fees, no secret invitations. But to say that a relatively small, "kind of fratty" (as I heard someone describe it), drunken crowd is representative of the Middlebury community has dangerous implications.

To think that the tailgate really is a safe and comfortable space for anyone is myopic. There are certainly students at Middlebury who like to party and want to attend a tailgate, but do not feel like it is a space for "people like them" because they do not meet the identity-based requirements to be "traditional" MiddKid. There's a difference between being "invited" and feeling welcome.

Perhaps what concerns us most is the dangerously skewed perspective made evident in that comment from "David." If tailgating students look around at their fellow revelers and think they're seeing the full spectrum of Middlebury's diversity, then they are blind to the presence and, consequently, the struggles of many other non-"traditional" groups of students at Middlebury.

How convenient, then, that narrow-minded perspective is. For if we're all just part of the tailgate crowd, then our "right to party" is indeed the only "right" that demands our indignation. So how might current students move forward? Learn about the social justice movements happening on campus and don't just speak up when you feel attacked, be an ally to those who are less comfortable than you at Midd. Fellow alumni: our voices are powerful. Don't go hoarse over beers in a parking lot.

I Stand With Midd

Religion in the Modern World



Don't Be Rude With Your Nudes

THE A LIST

Luke Smith-Stevens '14-5
is from New York, N.Y.

Everyone knows that as soon as you create an account anywhere online, there's a danger of having everything in your life taken from you by a teenager in an internet café somewhere. Somehow, that fear isn't enough for me to take an active, defensive stand when it comes to my cyber-privacy. Perhaps part of the reason for that is that I'm okay just hoping I don't get unlucky; or perhaps I have no idea how to set up those kinds of defenses.

There is, however, one piece of personal technological property which many people possess and likely feel very strongly about protecting. Them naked selfies, yo.

A *Wired* survey from 2009 found that one-third of students sent a nude photo of themselves at some point during college, a number that has likely gone up with the proliferation of smart phones and Snapchat. Taking a nude selfie is a unique kind of privacy risk. If your credit card is hacked, you can likely recover the money. Passwords can be reset, Facebook accounts reclaimed. Once a nude photo is posted publicly, however, one cannot make anybody unsee it. The recent hacking and dissemination of several female celebrities' personal, "intimate" photos made this all a national story, but there is a question underlying the issue which isn't really being talked about: is it bad to send somebody naked pictures of yourself? (It must be stated that this whole discussion is referring only to exchanges involving persons 18 years or older.)

That is different than asking, "Is it smart to send naked pictures of yourself?" — a question which, given what we discussed in paragraph one,

can pretty much be answered "no." But let's set aside the vulnerability of any and all digital information in the cloud era (whilst pretending we know exactly what that means). There seems to be an implicit judgment surrounding the recent coverage of this issue. Ask yourself, would you tell a group of friends that you sent nude pictures of yourself to a girlfriend or boyfriend? How about a group of classmates? What about a picture of you in your underwear?

Perhaps asking whether or not you'd broadcast that information to a bunch of people isn't the best way to illustrate this point. Still, what is there about sending a revealing selfie that warrants shame? The decision to let anybody see you naked is a distinctly personal one and should be free of external judgment. Whether you bare it all in person or via telecommunication is just as much your business as who you let see your business.

I admit that in all issues pertaining to sexuality, the male perspective is imbued with a power and exemption that undoubtedly affects my opinion on this. Nobody should ever be pressured to send or post revealing pictures of themselves, by strangers on Instagram or by a significant other. But there also shouldn't be any shame in how one decides to share their body. If you hop out the shower feeling sexy, and

you trust the recipient, there is nothing implicitly wrong with snapping that pic.

It shouldn't be news that our society has deeply perverse problems when it comes to sexuality, especially regarding the female body. Within a few hours of the personal photos of Kate Upton, Jennifer Lawrence and others hitting the internet, the FBI was working to identify the hacker. The next week, ESPN and many other media outlets were playing the video of Ray Rice knocking his then fiancée (now wife) unconscious pretty much on repeat. I do not in any way mean to belittle the violation perpetrated against those celebrities, or anybody who has had intimate photos stolen,

but what about Janay Palmer's privacy? Plenty of public figures denounced the posting and viewing of those photos, but nobody stood up for Ms. Palmer's right to not have open public access to footage of her being beaten by her fiancé. When one considers this as an example of the degree to which we are desensitized to violence against women, the unauthorized dissemination of personal photos by hackers and entrusted recipients alike should not come as a surprise.

Nonetheless, people send nude photos and there's little evidence to suggest they will stop. In a Sept. 5 *New York Times* article, Farhad Manjoo argued that cell phone companies should start embedding technology to detect and encrypt nude photos. A phone could make an image password protected, such that recipients could only view them with (revokable) permission, or it could prevent sensitive images from being backed up via cloud. Initially my reaction was laughter: it's on phone companies to make it easier to send nudes? Maybe not. But it is their responsibility to protect their clients' privacy. People have demonstrated that they want to use their phones in this way, and there's nothing criminal, or even immoral about sending a revealing picture. The immorality lies in the stealing and spreading of those photos, and it is unfortunate that our lack of respect for each other's bodies forces us to rely on cell phone makers.



Reorient Yourself

Over the last few weeks, an internet blog has been making the rounds throughout Middlebury students.

ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is
from Stoneington, Colo.

At this point, you've probably heard of it. Called the Middlebury College Disorientation Guide, the blog contains several posts outlining some of the problems with Middlebury's approach to environmentalism and social justice. It's an intriguing collection of articles that makes you think about what it means to be a Midd student, how we interact with our school, and how our school interacts with the world.

Certainly, the Disorientation Guide hits upon some hot-button issues that are popular in today's culture. It raises some difficult questions about the aims of Middlebury's investment. It calls out the college for being hypocritical with regards to carbon neutrality. It even attacks some of the most espoused beliefs on campus—that Middlebury is somehow unique, that going here is an unreproducible experience, and that students here have exceptional intellects and talent.

Although I agree with what much of the Disorientation Guide states, it makes some impassioned arguments that stray from the supported to the impulsive. It uses the power of fad social movements to make its points, relying on scathing attacks on elements of Middlebury culture that probably don't deserve all the hate that the guide is leveraging on them.

For example, the guide wants us to ask ourselves, is Middlebury actually progressive? Do we uphold standards of social justice? The authors take the declarative stance that no, in fact, so-

cial injustices are reflected within the student body. But the question that this raises is if societal problems become a college's problems. Is a college culpable if you can see stereotypes in its student body?

The disorientation guide is right in stating that the number of rich and white people at this school is disproportionate and, sometimes, shocking. But the guide also reasons that this makes Middlebury not actually progressive or diverse at all, insinuating that the relative lack of ethnic and socioeconomic diversity on campus is a choice the college is consciously making.

However, blaming Middlebury for this lack of diversity is misunderstanding the issues behind social inequality. What the authors of the dis-

"Middlebury has its fair share of problems, but conspiracy theories will do nothing to solve them."

orientation guide seem to forget is that the disproportionate representation of the wealthy at Middlebury is a symptom of this social inequality, and most likely not a result of some insidious scheme to make money. It's not necessarily Middlebury's fault that the student body is as disproportionately represented as it is. We should not make the college responsible for systemic social problems.

Of course, this doesn't mean we shouldn't attempt to address them. I certainly think that the College can help out in local communities, strengthening schools and addressing the problems at their sources. After all, the best way to fix any injustice is not to slap a quick fix on it after the damage has already been done; rather, helping out at its root cause can progress toward eliminating the problem altogether.

But even though Middlebury has issues with diversity, all students

share the common belief that Middlebury is special. Or at least, that's what I thought people believed. The guide's authors argue that, actually, the uniqueness of Middlebury is fake, and that our school is really founded on an elitist, archaic understanding of knowledge and wisdom. While I agree that much of the American education system needs to be fixed, and that there's too great a focus on test-taking, the guide goes so far as to seemingly assert that intelligence is a social construct. "Meritocracy is not real," it says definitively. Sure, there are different forms of intelligence, and there are many hundreds of millions of brilliant people who didn't go to schools like Middlebury, but that doesn't mean that the form of intelligence Middlebury emphasizes isn't any less real.

We were accepted to Middlebury because we were talented in academics. Many of us were good at memorizing tables, formulas, and dates, but that's not the only element of education. Middlebury focuses on critical thinking, encouraging us to challenge our professors, our books, and the thoughts of others. Even if it's not unique, this alone makes Middlebury special. We are all talented in this form of intelligence, and our college serves to emphasize it and make us better learners, thinkers, and citizens.

The fact that we are all intelligent in this way and share in the same intellectual community doesn't make us better than anyone else. The guide's authors were right in that intelligence comes in countless shapes, and that we can learn from every person on Earth. However, that fact doesn't preclude us from being exceptional. We are intelligent, talented, and dedicated. But the authors equate being exceptional with exceptionalism, intelligence with elitism. And yet, Middlebury students are often brilliant at what they choose to do, while at the same time recognizing

the inherent equality in all humans. Being good at something doesn't necessitate lording it over people.

The authors also suggest that, along with no one being exceptional, Middlebury itself isn't unique. In other words, although we think non-Midd students won't "get it," in fact our community doesn't provide us with anything special. I respond to this by asking them, what makes Middlebury not unique? It's a special experience that only exists in one place, with one set of students and professors, with one set of values. Saying it's not unique is far more disingenuous than saying it is. No one outside of Midd will understand that special and life-changing philosophy class you might have taken. That was a singular, incredible experience that only a very few people got to participate in. This isn't a bad thing. Each college has its own unique brand of education and unique set of experiences it offers. If you click with your school, if you passionately love being a student there, you'll have four years that no one else will ever experience. It's yours and only yours. And that's the beauty of it.

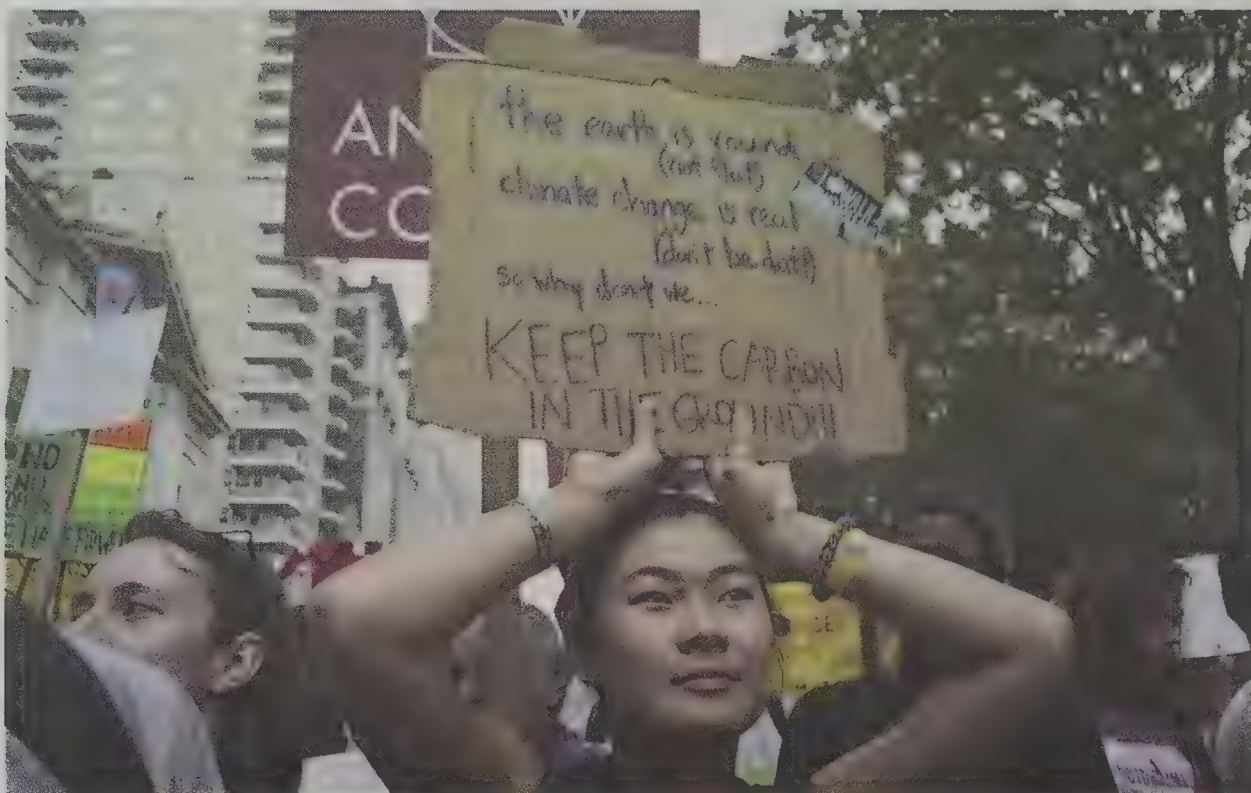
In my last column, I discussed how we have to be careful of slipping too far into the "Middlebury Bubble." I believe that the Disorientation Guide is a prime example of the effect of the bubble on the way people perceive social problems. Popularity can cause rational activism to become irrational and impulsive. Disenchantment can become more of a person's identity than a logical feeling about a system. Middlebury has its fair share of problems, but conspiracy theories will do nothing to solve them. Demeaning the incredible wealth of opportunities and the social activism that the college pursues will improve nothing. Instead, addressing problems in the most positive ways possible will help people and communities without harming the ability of the college to operate.

What Does The NYC People's

The world was invited to share their ideas and love for the planet this weekend in New York City. Over 120 Middlebury students piled into one bus, five vans, six personal cars and made a beeline toward the Manhattan island, where it would be the stomping ground for a 310,000-person global event: the People's Climate March.

There were no headlining speakers at the march. There was no celebrity spokesperson. The march belonged to the people as an intentionally all-inclusive event. "At this year's big climate rally, most of the people won't be pale, male and stale," Scholar-in-Residence in Environmental Studies and principal organizer of the march Bill McKibben said in a *Seven Days* article. Indeed, the marchers for greater action against climate change were comprised of migrant workers, union members, social justice organizations and, of course, students. "I don't want the climate movement to continue asking power holders to give us things: We need to demand things. And we also need to come up with and implement our own solutions," a leading member of the climate activism group, Sunday Night Group (SNG), Greta Neubauer '11.5 said in an interview on *The Campus Voice*.

The world stands at a pivotal point in the fight against climate change and, here at Middlebury, we are experiencing a turning point of our own. "This is a level of energy that, in my four years here, I haven't seen this energy go into this faction of the climate movement," said Hannah Bristol '11.5, a leading member of SNG.



"To me, the march was an amplification in the demands and urgency of addressing climate change. Marching alongside my family, it really struck me just how many voices were clearly demanding action for our future, with estimates of over 100,000 marchers in New York City in addition to the marches that occurred globally. In the midst of the crowd, all of these voices were nearly deafening, and I'd like to think that they reached far beyond, and that they can't be ignored."

Lowry Bass '17

"To me, the climate march symbolized the unity of all types of humans. A lot of times, people get categorized into 'groups' and that creates different types of segregation, but the climate march brought many people together, and it was beautiful to see people of all backgrounds come together because of one thing we all share: the negative effects of climate change in our lives and in the lives of those we love."

Jennifer Ortega '10



What's Climate March Symbolize?

Text by Jessica Cheung, Ben Anderson, and Annie Grayer. Photos by Anahi Naranjo. Design by Julia Hatheway and Evan Gallagher.

MIDDLEBURY

at the climate march

130 students

9 cars

5 vans

1 bus

3 miles

6 hours



"The march demonstrates that we've entered a new phase of the climate movement. We're recognizing the leadership of the people already impacted by climate change and collectively, we are building the power to demand bold and visionary action from our leaders and start implementing solutions in our own communities. The march, in combination with the major announcement of foundation and individual divestment commitments totaling over \$50 billion, as well as the actions at Flood Wall Street on Monday, could be a turning point. We could be winning."

Greta Neubauer '11.5



"To me the march symbolizes a reinvigorated and more unified climate movement that will hopefully be able to stand together going forward and bring strength to the movement through its numbers."

Zachary Derzotta '10

"The march was billed as 'Dear UN, do something about climate change.' However, I'm skeptical that this will really be a catalyst for any sort of change in policy. For me, the march is about the marchers. We want the individuals involved in the march to be energized about the issue and show that climate change is a problem that draws parallels in so many different geographic areas."

Laura Xiao '17

"It was great to see so many people coming together en masse to say 'climate change is too big of an issue to let it continue going on.' The march was a big moment for so many different movements to come together for a single cause and it showed how many groups across boundaries of race and class and sex are all affected by what's happening to the environment."

Teddy Smyth '15

Commons System Creates Connections

By Renee Chang

On a day-to-day basis – especially as the fall semester gains momentum – students encounter a multitude of social interactions. From meetings with advisers to late night chats with friends, our lives are largely influenced by the relationships we forge with others. But what – if anything – is the force that shapes the way in which these connections form? While no single answer prevails, Middlebury's often-overlooked commons system plays an important role in setting the tone for interactions that take place both inside and outside of the classroom.

All undergraduates of the College are assigned to one of the four commons, from which the College hopes to "[encourage] the free exchange of ideas and [build] a robust intellectual community." The five Commons include Atwater, Brainerd, Cook, Ross and Wonnacott. While underclassmen are required to reside in the halls affiliated with their Commons during their first two years at the College, upperclassmen have the option of living anywhere on campus.

Dean of Brainerd Commons and Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature Natasha V. Chang captures the essence of the Commons system with the metaphor of the neighborhood.

"I like that the Commons system breaks up the College as a whole into smaller neighborhoods so that there is more of a

chance for people to get to know each other," she said. "In a neighborhood [environment], you care about those around you, respect them, help them and are willing to do things together."

Chang remarks that the Commons fulfills its goal of being a "living-learning community" in a variety of ways, from "grass-roots programming depending on where students' interests lie to programming that comes through official lines, such as the First Year Seminar [model]."

Like Chang, Commons Residential Advisor of Atwater Commons David Dolifka '13 agrees that the Commons system helps to enhance the quality of life at the College.

"By choosing to attend a residential college, I think that Middlebury students understand the value of learning from peers outside of the classroom," Dolifka said. "While the Commons system certainly extends a convenient opportunity for first-years to extend classroom discussions into the living space, I think the greater benefit comes from the organic conversations that occur within a community in which people feel integrated and comfortable."

NATASHA V. CHANG

DEAN OF BRAINERD AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

"In a neighborhood, you care about those around you, respect them, help them and are willing to do things together."

in a community in which people feel integrated and comfortable."

The Commons system has often received praise for its ability to help incoming first-years feel more at home in their first few weeks of college. Yasmeen Brynes '17 – who also serves as a tour guide – says that the Commons system helps to develop personal connections with other students.

"[It's] easier to see the same people more frequently so first-years can make friends and cultivate connections more easily," Brynes said. "It's a really good support system for incoming freshman, and I make sure to emphasize and explain Middlebury's Commons to prospective students and their parents whenever I give a tour."

CRA of Cook Commons Jordan Kelley '14 also credits the College's residential system with helping him find a sense of belonging, "especially as a first-year."

"I made some of my closest friends here in my first-year dorm and connected with a great variety of people I might not otherwise have had an excuse to interact with," he said. "The Commons is an organizational structure that helps students make sense of the wide array of offerings here at Middlebury, allowing them to connect more easily with the academic, cultural, extracurricular and social interests around campus."

In line with Brynes' and Kelley's experiences, Dolifka also said that "for new students, the commons system seeks to make the Middlebury community feel a little more personal and a little less overwhelming."

Although the Commons system plays an important part in shaping the experience for first-year students, some upperclassmen feel more disconnected from the Commons as they gradually move away from Commons-affiliated housing.

While Kelley agrees with this assessment, he notes that becoming a part of the College's residential-life community is a great way stay engaged and "give back" to the Commons.

"I think the majority of students experience some kind of [disconnect] as they settle into academic and social spheres of

choice during their time here and move away from Commons-specific housing," he said. "The Commons serves greater accountability and organizational roles in the finishing years of most students here at Middlebury I think, though many students do continue interacting with the Commons, often by serving as [members of] Residential Life. By doing so, they are helping to give back to the system that allowed many of them to find their passions here at the College."

Another point of contention for the commons system involves Middlebury's "Feb" class, a group of approximately 100 students who enter the College for the first time at the beginning of spring semester. Unlike regular first-year students who enter the College in September, Febs are placed into a Commons but often do not live in the Commons-affiliated housing, which can make for a difficult transition.

Chang remarked that the Commons "work very hard with Feb leaders during orientation to make sure kids that are doing programming and connecting with other students in the commons. Res-life staff and deans also [make an effort to] connect individually with students for the Febs."

As the College continues to develop, it is likely that the Commons system will remain one of the forefront aspects of residential life. While no system is perfect, Chang says what she enjoys most about the Commons is the simple pleasure of forming "holistic connection[s]" with students.

"I think what is really important is getting to know students in their fullness and not just seeing the academic side of [them], or looking at students from the sole perspective of a coach or mentor, even if it involves being honest and saying tough stuff," she said.

A Story and Personality Beneath the Panda Hat

By Hye-Jin Kim

"Panda hat kid just dropped the top scoop of ice cream off his cone, caught it, and put it on #likeaboss."

"Panda hat kid talked to the tour group!"

"Beginning to question whether Midd's mascot is the panther or panda hat kid."

"I nominate Panda hat kid as Liebowitz's replacement #VotePHK"

I was initially unimpressed by the size and style of junior Ruben Guzman's panda hat. It just seemed like any other fleece hat with a panda face. It seemed out of proportion to the attention he's drawn on campus in the last couple weeks. Frankly, I had pictured a fluffy panda ski mask with large mitten paws as tassels, a full-on face mask disguise for the robber who eats shoots and leaves.

Sitting in Crossroads on a Friday afternoon with a whole sweet potato pie to share between us, Guzman '16, however, did not fail to impress me with tales of personal significance behind his hat that went viral with social media app Yik Yak.

Though the panda hat was probably made in China, Guzman is a native of Sanger, California, a town he described as very different from Middlebury, which made adjusting to his first year of college difficult.

"You know how people fall back on certain things that are comfortable to them? For me, I fell back on hats and childhood," he said. "Pokemon, Digimon, cute little animals. That was a way for me to cope with being uncom-

fortable. The hat became a natural way for me to do that."

Though Guzman's panda hat is hands-down his most famous hat, he has a collection of 10 other animal hats, including a chicken, an owl and a fox. He wears his panda hat the most often for pragmatic reasons.

"My panda hat is the best-made one. It's the one in the best shape and protected me from the cold the best," he said.

Guzman purchased the hat in San Francisco at a meet-up for prospective Georgetown University students.

"This is supposed to be Giants [baseball] fan-wear. After I bought the hat, the morning after, I got the acceptance letter from Middlebury. I was like, 'Oh wow, it's a sign!'"

"Middlebury is so different from where I'm from. In my city, there are drive-by [shootings] that happen every week or so. Someone dies. And then people talk about that stuff. That was so normal to me. The openness. The whole showing vulnerability. The fact that a lot of people from where I'm from look very much like me: Hispanic."

"I came from that to Middlebury, where everything is calm," he said. "There's not a lot of craziness happening here. The craziness here is just academic, or somebody overdrank, and that wasn't relatable to me. I don't know what to tell you, I don't know how to approach people, I don't know how to understand why it is such a big deal. Why is it that getting a B on a test is a big deal? It's just a B."

"I understand pain and suffering is, to people, relative. But, when you're a first-year, you're like, 'People are so ... I don't understand that.' That's where the panda hat came in," Guzman said.

"The hat is very representative of how I am. Very silly, very goofy, like life is so short. Middlebury is such a privileged place in good and bad ways. I feel like we all get caught up in the little bad stuff." He smiles. "What's the problem? Let's just have some fun."

Guzman, currently a First-Year Counselor in Battell, attributes his rise to Yik Yak fame to the first-years on his hall, Battell second floor center.

"The first person who showed the Yik Yaks to me was a first-year. I feel like Yik Yak is a big thing with the first-years. It was perfect timing. The incoming first-years came in, and, as an FYC, I was one of the first people they saw on campus and could attach some sort of

significance to."

"My nickname [as Panda Hat Kid] is chill. It's definitely a thing," he said, laughing. "[As for the Yik Yaks], it's super hard to offend me. The closest one to being offensive was, 'Panda hat kid makes me want to interbreed.' I was cracking up. This is just hilarious!"

Guzman believes the campus's infatuation with "Panda Hat Kid" along with his "five minutes of fame" will eventually die down.

"And I'm totally okay with that. As long

as I'm perceived as someone that people feel comfortable around, that's what really matters to me," he said. "[As an FYC], whenever I see first-years, I like to ask them how they're doing, and how they're adapting to life at Midd. I feel like I've made a lot of connections with first-years who aren't in my hall because of that."

He tugged on the baseball tassels. "It's only five minutes, and you should do the best you can with the five minutes you got."



Ruben Guzman '16 with his panda hat that has origins in San Francisco Giants fan-wear.



Panda Hat Guy Fast Facts

Major: Economics
Favorite Hobby: Board Games
Favorite Animal: Chickens
Favorite Candy: Reese's

Peer Writing Tutors: Not a One-Way Street

By Annie Grayer

Within the Center for Teaching, Learning and Research (CTLR), the Writing Center is dedicated to helping students through every stage of the writing process. The Peer Writing Tutor Program is the workhorse and heart of this center.

Senior Lecturer and Tutor in Writing and Director of the Writing Center Mary Bertolini is in charge of training, assigning, evaluating and supervising her Peer Writing Tutors. Maggie Morris '15 is the head peer writing tutor and is responsible for approving tutoring sessions, running evening make-up sessions and assisting the Program Director. Cate Costley '15 is the head mentor and manages and guides the Writing and Academic Mentors attached to First-Year Seminars.

She also runs evening make-up sessions and assists the Program Director. Robert Silverstein '15 is the manager of drop-in tutors, and therefore manages, supervises and assigns evening shifts, while also creating publicity for the program and assisting the Program Director.

Peer Writing Tutors and Writing Academic Mentors are trained mentors designed to aid first-year students with writing and presentation skills. Described by Bertolini as "approachable, courteous, knowledgeable, patient, diplomatic and generous," tutors are expected to meet with their students individually for up to sixty hours over the course of the semester, and are also made available to each Commons on frequent occasions.

To receive the honor of becoming a Peer Writing Tutor, students must either have been nominated for the Paul W. Ward '25 Memorial Prize, an annual award given by the faculty to those first-year students who are identified as producing outstanding essays, or specifically requested by a faculty member to join their first-year seminar or college writing course.

Before becoming a peer tutor, students receive extensive training from the CTLR. Bertolini describes the training as including "practice writing conferences, instruction in starting with macro problems and moving to micro problems, thesis and organization review, oral presentation training, dealing with a variety of specialized student challenges and problems, support for international students, information about writing in different majors and disciplines, grammar review and information about other support services on campus."

In addition, Writing and Academic Men-

tors, who work exclusively with First-year Seminars, work with Director of Learning and Resources Yonna McShane to receive training in time management and study skill strategies. New peer writing tutors attend six training sessions, while experienced tutors attend three. All tutors receive paid compensation from the CTLR for their time.

Peer writing tutors were designed to help students grow as writers. Their motto is "help the student write the best paper the student can write, not the best paper the tutor can write." Peer tutor Madelaine Hack '17 spoke to this issue of preserving academic integrity.

"Students look at us like we are the quick fixes, but we can't tell them what to do," Hack said. "We can only guide them to create a finished project of their own. All I can do is help to lead them in the right direction." Bertolini also recognizes the delicacy of the issue.

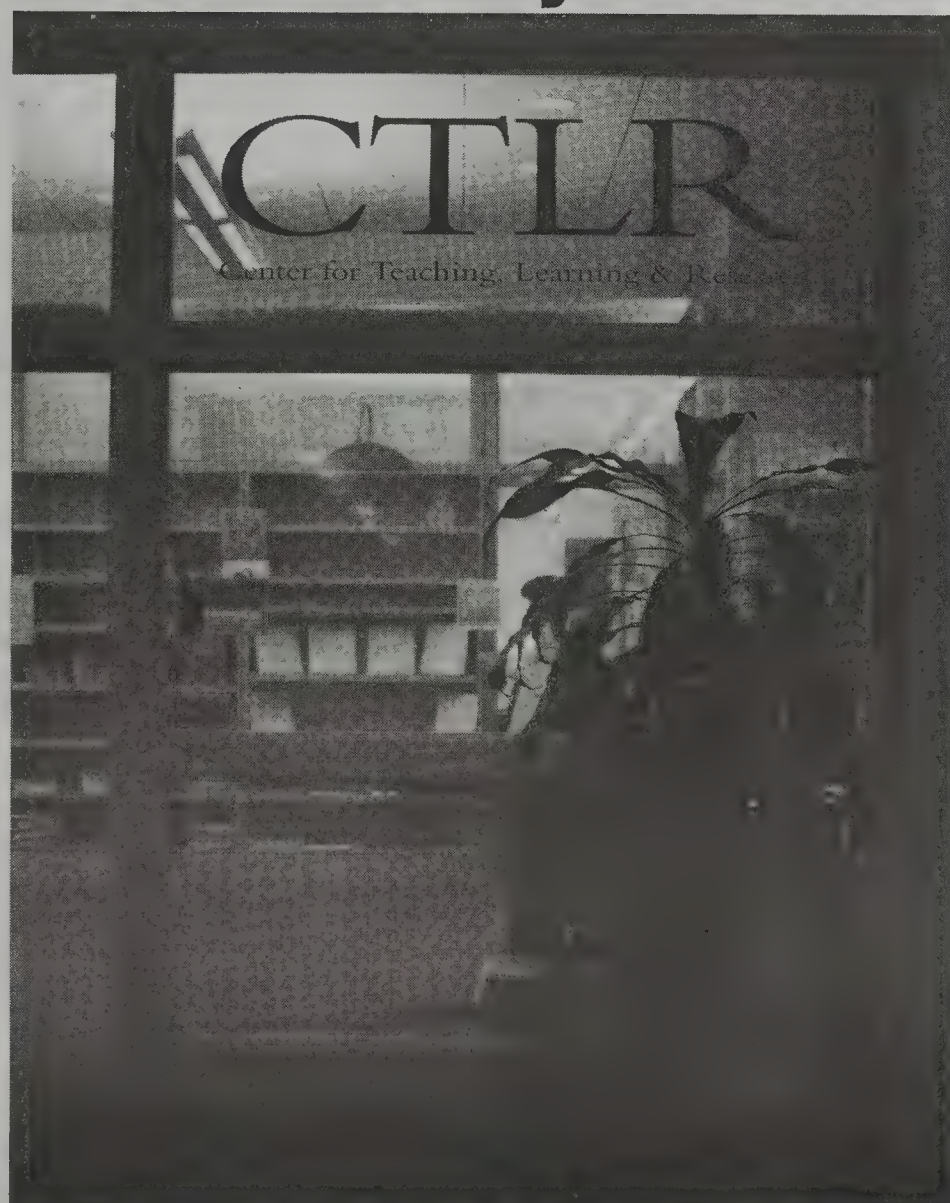
"The easiest thing for tutors to do would be to fix papers, but that violates the Honor Code," she said. "Most of our training consists of ways for tutors to help students make their own revisions on their own papers."

In order to emphasize that tutors are trained to grow writers, not to fix papers, all Peer Writing Tutors must take the Academic Honesty Tutorial and participate in at least one practice writing conference a semester.

However, there is a growing sentiment from students that meetings with peer tutors are ineffective. Jake Brown '17 verbalizes this dissatisfaction when describing his interactions with his peer tutor.

"It was only for ten minutes," he said. "It was really awkward. I just showed her my paper, she said it was good, and I left. I would prefer to ask a friend for help than a stranger." Although Brown's experience only represents one voice, his opinion speaks to the larger problem of a disconnect between the expectations of peer tutors and their actual role.

The issue facing the peer tutors is an expectation gap. Students too often enter a session with their peer tutor with the expectation that their paper will be fixed by the end of the meeting, and peer tutors approach the session with the anticipation of being able to answer all of the students' questions. The writing process often involves many revisions and drafts and the generation of new ideas takes time and cannot be manifested on the spot. Once peer tutors are viewed as authorized aid and not a cheat sheet, progress and perspectives can change. When asked about changes she



MICHAEL O'HARA

Peer Writing Tutors are tasked with guiding a creative process without interfering with it.

would like to make to the program, Bertolini had some promising ideas.

"I would like to offer more varied training opportunities for my trained writing tutors and mentors," she said. "Carrie Macfarlane, Director of Research and Instruction, has offered research workshops for the writing tutors and mentors, and I would like to offer more training in presentation technologies for those tutors as well. We now have writing tutors available in all five Commons on various evenings. I hope more students will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity right

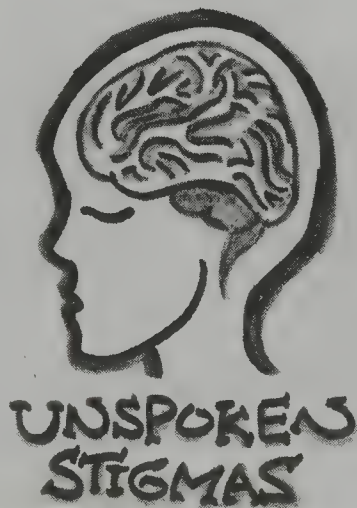
in their own dorms. Finally, this fall, we've launched a Writing Center Word press site (go/writingcenter), and we'll be tweeting from the Writing Center (@MidWritingCent or go/writingtweets)."

It is important to recognize the faces behind the Peer Writing Program and the students who make it all possible. The training and expectations are immense and should not be taken lightly. Hopefully by understanding the perspective and role of Peer Writing Tutors, students can be better equipped, and in the right frame of mind, for their next paper.

Stress at College Reaches a Fever Pitch

By Emma McDonald

Stress is an inescapable part of college life: probably of life in general, too. Stress can be good: it can be a motivator, it can bring out the best in us, but too often it becomes a burden. Being stressed stresses us out! Sometimes, stress is a product of biting off more you can chew, poor time



management or an unlucky schedule. Other times, stress can be caused by relationship troubles, family issues or health concerns.

Finding ways to alleviate stress is very important and can often be a trial-

and-error process: what works for some people may not work for others. But one great way to reduce stress, no matter the cause, is to talk to someone. Many times, talking to a friend can be a great way to let it all out. But other times you might need some extra help: after all, our friends are often just as stressed out as we are! Luckily, people at the College are here to help.

One of the functions of the Counseling staff at Parton Center for Health and Wellness is to help students who are feeling overwhelmed by stress. Some people may assume the counseling center is only for students having "serious problems," or something requiring a diagnosis, but the counseling center is there for you for much more than that: homesickness, relationship problems, sleep problems, stress, adjustment to college – these are all things the counselors at Parton can help with.

"All students who are registered at Middlebury College are eligible to seek support from counseling without a fee. The majority of students who seek counseling are going through a developmentally appropriate crisis such as family or relationship conflict, adjustment to college, questions surrounding individual's identity, grief, stress management, etc," Director of Parton Counseling Ximena Mejia said.

Mejia estimates that students usually meet with a counselor at Parton for 4-5 sessions; for more long-term concerns, therapists in town can be of help.

Some students may come to Parton

seeking psychiatric services.

"About 15 percent of students who come to counseling seek psychiatric services and Counseling provides referrals to Counseling Services of Addison County who manage all students who need psychiatric services. There is a wide range of psychiatric diagnosis but among the top are generalized anxiety disorder, depression, trauma, and substance abuse," Mejia said. She points out that the College's rural location and the condition of Vermont's mental health services in general means that, "we have limited specialized mental health resources in the area."

Within Addison County, Counseling Services of Addison County is the only psychiatric service. More resources can be found further away in Burlington, in Chittenden County.

"There are very good psychotherapists in town and their availability varies throughout the year depending on the clinical loads ... with the latest substance abuse epidemic, most mental health resources are saturated," Mejia said. "We encourage students to maintain psychiatric support at home due to the State's limitations."

In addition to talking with a counselor, Parton Counseling offers the opportunity to cuddle with Lily, a therapy dog, on Fridays from 1:30 to 3pm. Parton also holds a variety of support groups every semester, including a Grief and Loss support group as well as an Introduction to Mindfulness and Self-Compassion group

and a Sexual Violence support group.

"Please join a group as it is a great way to get support and relate to other students who are perhaps going through similar circumstances," Mejia said. She also noted the availability of sobriety support groups through Center Point, located in Marbleworks. More information on support groups can be found online at the Counseling at Parton website.

Students can also talk to their Commons Dean if they're feeling overwhelmed by stress – Commons Deans are able to help with academic, personal and housing issues. Students can also go to the Chaplain's Office for pastoral counseling. If the problem is academics-related, students can go to the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Research in addition to their Commons Dean – the CTLR offers tutoring and time management resources that can help reduce stress. In addition, students can participate in stress-reducing activities – the Yoga Club offers a variety of weekly classes, there are meditation classes weekly around campus and opportunities to work on arts and crafts in McCullough's Craft Corner.

Being stressed out may not be avoidable, but it can be manageable. If you're feeling overwhelmed by stress and are at a loss for how to manage your stress, try meeting with your Commons Dean or heading to the Counseling Center. The College has resources available to help you deal with stress and mental health issues – don't be afraid to use them.

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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

DJ Spooky Shatters Musical Boundaries

By Leah Lavigne

In honor of the endless technological innovations that shape the way the College community communicates, learns and engages, the 2014 Clifford Symposium centered on the theme of "Transforming the Academy in the Digital Age." On Sept. 18 and 19, distinguished visiting scholars and faculty members of the College held discussions and gave lectures on the cultural, economic and social shifts caused by rapidly advancing technologies, focusing on the effects those shifts have on the academic community.

The Clifford Symposium's culminating event on Friday, Sept. 19, "Of Water and Ice," was a dynamic presentation and performance by New York City producer and intellectual Paul D. Miller, also known by his stage name, DJ Spooky, That Subliminal Kid.

Born in Washington, D.C., Paul D. Miller studied philosophy and French literature at Bowdoin College in Maine. Soon after, he began recording singles and LP's under the stage name 'DJ Spooky, That Subliminal Kid,' derived from the 'spooky' sounds of the hip-hop, techno and ambient music styles he samples, as well as the character The Subliminal Kid in William S. Burroughs' 1964 novel "Nova Express."

The performance explored DJ Spooky's multidisciplinary study of Antarctica through stills from his 2011 text "The Book of Ice," audio and visual samples of the uninhabited continent's climate and algorithmically generated musical patterns based on climate data collected and processed in a temporary studio on his trip.

DJ Spooky is at once performer and intellectual, meticulous and improvisational. His focused attention is not just on creation, but the process of how artistic form is conceived through cultural influences and samples of previous works. Professor of Film and Media Culture Jason Mittell explained that this rare and unique combination of talents and interests proved to be a perfect fit for this year's theme of "Transforming the Academy in the Digital Era."

"It was really challenging to come up with an artist who would both speak to how digital technologies are transforming their artwork and have an intellectual foundation of that," he said. "There aren't many of those, so when my colleague [Assistant Professor of Film and Media Culture] Louisa Stein said that she'd just seen this artist who showed video and audio work and talked about the concepts of remix and digital manipulation and all the various social and cultural issues and creative possibilities of that, I said, 'Wait

a minute, he would be the perfect person!'"

DJ Spooky and his management team pitched a variety of performance options for the Symposium, including a DJ dance party rave or a lecture featuring the academic side of his persona, but the winning pitch, incorporating a variety of mediums from his study of Antarctica, provided a combination of both of these with an added environmental twist.

"For me, what was so appealing about this was, first, that it's touching on an academic area of research that is obviously very important socially, but also very prominent here at Middlebury, talking about climate change and environmental studies, but also that he's doing it not from a scholarly perspective, but from an artistic perspective," Mittell said.

DJ Spooky began running through photos of his trip to Antarctica on his iPad. DJ Spooky's 'lectures' in between songs would be better described as dynamic conversations in which the artist shared the sources of his inspiration and information while providing engaging, efficient examples of the intellectual thought processes of his work.

Using his iPad as the facilitator of the multimedia presentations within the performance, DJ Spooky showed first-hand how digital technologies have truly transformed access to content and tools never available before, making it possible for anyone with technological access to add to this new era of open creative expression.

The performance stimulated the senses through sets of juxtapositions. DJ Spooky engaged in discussion about his music, connecting each work to its intellectual basis before spinning each dynamic, throbbing track of music that will never be created in quite the same way again. This completely digital, revolutionary use of iPad technology and apps stood in stark contrast to the violin player standing on the other end of the stage using a 9th century instrument to both augment and combat the musical motifs of each piece.

DJ Spooky's motivations for delving into a project steeped in discussion about climate change are connected to his goals as an artist.

"I grew up in a family that was very intensive about information, and my idea was that art and ideas are never separate from social justice or change, so climate issues for me are a part of that," he said. "One of the things that really blew my mind was just how people are on autopilot about climate change and consumerism, so I feel that arts can help people reimagine and reframe what's going on. I'm an avant-garde oriented artist, I'm not mainstream and I have no desire to



COURTESY STEVE CLARKE

DJ Spooky performs a unique combination of intellectualism and performance art.

be mainstream, but I do think that you can make room for new styles and new voices and new approaches, which are needed more than ever."

By setting up a studio in Antarctica, DJ Spooky wanted to explore a way for electronic music to respond to climate issues and examine humankind's ever-changing relationship with the vanishing arctic poles. By using the urban landscape as a sound tool, DJ Spooky remixed sounds generated from the most remote place on the planet to resemble styles that typically come out of the city like hip-hop and electronica. The first tune he performed, 'Antarctic Rhythms,' began with Jason Bergman, a Barnett, VT violinist who performs with the Vermont Philharmonic Orchestra.

All of the musical selections sampled at the performance came from the free DJ Spooky app, which the artist constantly referred to and worked with as his only performance tool. Designed in collaboration with Microsoft Arts, the app allows users to sample tracks from their devices' music collection or SoundCloud and use sound mixing features on the app to sample from other works and create original pieces. Downloaded over 25 million times, the app's popularity is a testament to the prevalence of remix culture and the desire for more innovative technological creative outlets and tools.

Every musical sound and remix of the night came directly from DJ Spooky's deft use of the app, which was entirely visible to the audience through a large screen projector. During each song, audience members absorbed aural information and the live visual of the violinist playing each of DJ Spooky's coordinating compositions, the projection of the app in use in the middle of the stage and DJ Spooky at his iPad playing as an improvisational, reactionary force to the preordained violin compositions.

Though violin and iPad are not traditionally paired together, as soon as each performance began, it was remarkable how well the two instruments worked together. The audience, too, made up in equal numbers of both academics and students, buzzed with an electronic excitement at the end of the first song.

Citing one of his favorite filmmakers, Georges Méliès, DJ Spooky pointed to sampling and remixing in the short 1900 film *One Man Band*, in which Méliès transposes an image of himself seven times in the same shot, each version of himself with a different instrument. This time consuming process had to be spliced and crafted by hand, and is one of the earliest examples of a sampling and remix, a concept that pervades current discourse on artistic innovation.

DJ Spooky explained that every song is fundamentally comprised of loops and layers

drawn from sound selections, motifs and elements.

The artist emphasized that music is not something that should be played the same way time and time again, but instead should be revisited and reinvented.

DJ Spooky worked with quantum physicist Brian Greene on "The Book of Ice" to map the sounds of ice as data points that could be mathematically entered into software to generate algorithms of how ice actually forms. Calling this middle ground between poetics and science a form of 'geek hip-hop,' DJ Spooky compared patterns present in snowflakes as very similar to patterns that form in genres of music. Within "The Book of Ice," QR codes unlock hidden data about climate change and the mathematical ice data that went into each piece of music.

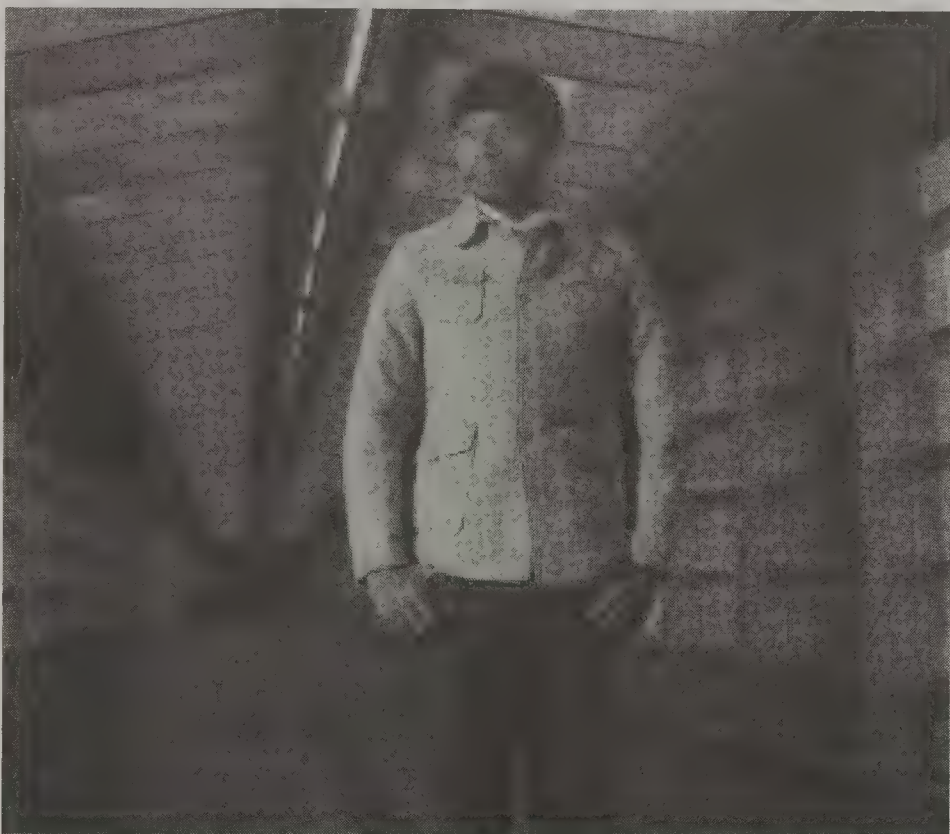
In the four other songs he performed throughout the night, the distinct musical sounds and motifs made more and more sense as DJ Spooky explained a new kind of literacy based in the ability to record and recognize patterns in any form of life. While viewing a snowflake at high resolution, the motif matching the snowflake's data patterns rang true throughout Wilson Hall, and only seconds later, the violin joined in the pattern in a slightly transposed way.

"[DJ Spooky] embodies this hybrid between the analog strings and the digital iPad, and the fact that digital is not just a gimmick but rather the form of the music where the sound generation is tied to the content of the piece," Mittell said. "This is a perfect summation of what digital technologies can do to transform artwork and cross the boundaries that I think very often feel rigid between creative practice and scholarly research."

Nobody owns the ice, and one of DJ Spooky's messages during the performance was that open systems allow anyone to remix. He enthusiastically encouraged those in the audience to download his app, listen to and remix any of his music and embrace the digital age's open flow of information.

Both students and academics attending the performance seemed impressed by the innovations of DJ Spooky's imagination. His abilities as a DJ alone recommend him to the collegiate setting, but his added intellectualism made him a perfect candidate to fit into all aspects of campus endeavors.

"I think this is a wonderful approach to the topic, and I'm really optimistic that after all the various ways of thinking and disseminating ideas and exploring new possibilities that the lectures and workshops generated over the two days, the artwork of DJ Spooky will make you say 'Wow, this is what you can do with all this,'" Mittell said.



COURTESY DAVID HOLLOWAY

Paul D. Miller, better known by his stage name 'DJ Spooky, That Subliminal Kid.'

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Passing Through

In this collaborative talk, student playwrights present monologues written in response to Kate Gridley's portraits of emerging adults, and Gridley discusses the interplay of sound and vision. Free.

9/26, 5 P.M., TOWN HALL THEATER, JACKSON GALLERY

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9/26, 8 P.M., MCA CONCERT HALL

In the House

A 16-year-old boy becomes involved with the family of a fellow student and writes about it in essays for his French teacher. Faced with this gifted but unusual pupil, the boy's intrusion leads the teacher into a treacherous no-man's land between the literary and the literal.

9/27, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

SCIENCE and SOCIETY

By Toby Aicher

In early November, the Rosetta space mission will land on a comet. Arguably as momentous as putting a rover on Mars or a man on the Moon, this space expedition also gets my vote as the coolest to date.

I say this because the comet in question, 67P/Cheryumov-Gerasimenko, is moving 85,000 miles per hour and is almost a quarter of the size of Manhattan. Rosetta was launched in 2004 and took ten years to reach the comet. It followed an intricate trajectory that included four gravitational slingshots by Earth and Mars. The complexity and precision of the mission's ballistics is mind-boggling, and makes me feel all the more insecure about my inability to accurately throw crumpled paper into a waste bin.

But the destination is more astounding than the journey. Astronomers describe comets as dirty snowballs composed of ice, dust, and rock hurling through space. They have a thin atmosphere and a characteristic, colorful tail because solar winds vaporize comet ice. Debris constantly breaks off from the comet and when the earth passes through a comet's tail, the debris disbursts in the atmosphere, causing a meteor shower. Comets are thought to originate from the Kuiper belt, a field of comets and asteroids just outside the orbit of Pluto, and from the Oort cloud, a surrounding jumble of icy objects that extends halfway to the nearest star.

Most exciting is that during the subsequent months after touchdown, the mission will relay data that will contribute to our understanding of the formation of the solar system and the origin of life.

Comets are thought to be among the most primitive objects in the solar system and leftover fragments from its formation. Rosetta project scientist Claudia Alexander explains, "Comets come from a distant place in space, and because of this we think they represent pristine, unchanged remnants of the distant past ... comets present a unique 'archeological dig' opportunity."

Rosetta rendezvoused with the comet in August and is currently orbiting and approaching it. In November it will be close enough to drop its lander, Philae, onto the comet. Philae is equipped with 11 instruments, and if all goes well it will start experimenting and sending back information.

Philae will analyze the structure, composition, thermal properties and outgassing of the comet. But the most interesting questions the mission explores are related to Earth.

The first is the origin of Earth's water. One theory is that comets brought water to Earth. Analysis of the moon's craters suggests that early in Earth's history there was a chaotic period of frequent comet and asteroid impact. Most comets have a large amount of water, and it's possible they supplied Earth with some or most of its water. One way for scientists to investigate this question is to measure comet water's ratio of deuterium isotopes to common hydrogen. This ratio varies from location to location in the solar system, and will reveal whether or not the water on earth is similar to the water on comets.

Scientists also think comets and asteroids carry important chemicals for life such as nucleic and amino acids. Some scientists speculate that comets or asteroids could have seeded earth with these chemicals and contributed to the origin of life. Life on earth uses left-handed amino acid isomers, and by investigating the isomers of the comet's amino acids we will discover whether left-handed or right-handed isomers are present on comets.

Rosetta is just one of several space missions planned for the near future. Equally exciting are the prospects of the replacement of the Hubble with the James Webb telescope, a robotic rover's journey to the dwarf planet Ceres, and a manned expedition to Mars.

The moments of discovery when there's a change in our perception of ourselves and our relationship to the universe are the most galvanizing aspects of science, and Rosetta is a perfect example. Rosetta hasn't discovered anything yet and might not find anything of great significance. But it's the intangible hope of future answers that inspires and motivates scientists to tirelessly confront the unknown. In general, this column will brood on issues in science that are more controversial, elicit greater trepidation and necessitate deeper nuance, but I wanted to start with an example of what, I think, most captivates people about science.

Concert Brings Dynamic Dance



COURTESY STEVE CLARKE

The Van Dyke Dance Group of North Carolina practices dynamic movements before collaborating with Vermont performers.

By Mandy Kimm

On Sept. 18 at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts Dance Theatre, artists brought together by connections to North Carolina and Vermont presented NC Dances VT, an evening of dance works by The Van Dyke Dance Group, the University of Vermont's Coordinator of Dance Paul Besaw and Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown. The concert was composed of six works quite distinct in character, yet all the pieces incorporated some common heritage of the choreographers' experiences in North Carolina and Vermont.

We tend to consider the sweat arising from physical exertion as undesirable or gross, but the human body is capable of so much dynamism and expression in movement achieved by intense physical effort. The evening of dance performances reminded us of those possibilities of beauty in physicality, beginning with the piece "Tract," choreographed by Besaw and performed by Brown and Vermont area dancers Misha Bailey, Hanna Satterlee and Marly Spieser-Schneider.

The stage was centered by musician D. Thomas Toner, who stood playing the marimba in a spotlight as the female dancers, dressed in matching blue, swirled around him in circular motion for much of the piece. The live performance of the music within the dance raised the question of the interaction of music and dance in performance. We often focus on the visual of the dancers moving through space while taking for granted the strong emotional effect the music can have on us as viewers. At several points during the piece, the dancers slowed their movements to cause a visual shift towards Toner, who continued to move at his own pace with the music in center stage. At the close of the piece the four dancers strode off the stage at a run while intensely gazing at the audience, as if to question what we notice and where our focus lies.

"A Sense of Order," choreographed by Jan Van Dyke, featured The Van Dyke Dance Group's Laura McDuffee, Christine Bowen Stevens and Kelly Swindell depicting scenes of repetitive and ritualistic daily life, presumably of working women in costumes that evoked hotel maids. The motion of the three dancers was mechanical and strictly rhythmi-

cal, as if constrained and dictated by the clock — as is often the case in a busy working life. The three women formed various trio formations, each depending on and supporting the others, though at a few points rectangular blocks of light would illuminate the floor and cause the trio to break up momentarily. A striking moment near the end of the piece was when two of the dancers backed out of such a corridor of light and were dramatically obscured by darkness at the back of the theatre before reemerging to continue going through their motions as before, as if hinting at a possibility for escape from the stark black and white colors and rhythms of their routine.

The third piece, "Pastor of Souls," was certainly the most visually unusual work of the evening. Besaw appeared onstage wearing sneakers, sweatpants, a scrub shirt, latex gloves and a blue surgical mask while holding a box of tissues under his arm. Moving deliberately and slowly in a disturbing green light, he conjured an air of eeriness as he began doling out tissues one by one from the box. The first one he drew out of the box agonizingly and spent much time floating and waving it about before letting it fall to the ground, but by the end of the piece, after offering the box to a front-row audience member, he frantically pulled tissue after tissue out of the box and threw them into the air. It seemed to connote a disposable and consumerist attitude about medical care that promises remedy after remedy to be used and disposed of at a whim.

The next piece, choreographed by Brown and performed by New York City dancer Beatrice Capote, was titled "Miss Universe," and began with an accordingly stunning visual. In the pitch black theatre, Capote stood slowly revolving over a small globular projector that lit up the inside of her thin white hoop skirt with patterns of stars. But as the theatre filled with light and the music changed, Capote stepped out of the skirt and shifted swiftly from the delicate revolving motion to an energetic and lithe freedom of movement that was richly satisfying to watch. She vacillated several times between this fulfilling motion and contrasting measured and careful quality as she focused on the skirt or the black star globe. At one point, while dancing with the skirt on, the audience was left waiting for her to abandon the hindered motion the skirt

allowed and to leap out into freedom again. This contrast suggested a struggle between the inner forces and passions we all possess, and the controlled, proper image that we desire to show the world, and this work certainly hinted at the depths of possibility within.

"The Life and Times" by Van Dyke was a stirring duet between Besaw and Swindell, who portrayed the progression of a relationship between a man and a woman. The piece was elegantly framed by parallel movements in the beginning and end. At first the couple stood in separate, distanced spotlights, sliding back and forth in sync to the music, but the piece closed with them sharing one spotlight, Besaw behind Swindell as she held up her left hand at a right angle to frame his face. Within the narrative of their interaction, their respective movement qualities revealed the personalities of their characters while also complementing each other in moments of embrace or contact. It seemed to be a story of mutual support and understanding that withstood the challenges of time and conflict.

The ending piece of the evening was "Interiors," a work-in-progress by Brown. Opening with shy body language and the quiet sound of her singing, Brown evoked a young and unsure individual who gradually gained comfort with the stage and found her voice — a moment marked by a burst of confidence in her movement and a shift to orange lighting. Yet in the midst of this self-discovery she found loneliness and fear as sounds of whispers and voices flooded the theatre and Brown whispered, "Is anybody here?" over and over again. The audience discovered a cause of her distress as the audio clip played, "An unarmed teenager was shot and killed today," and as she pointed two fingers in the shape of a gun towards the door. Her motion and the sound changed to qualities of defiance and strength as the words, "I'm gonna dance my God-damned dance" reverberated through the theatre, and the audience felt Brown's power and the will to find her own truth amidst all of the voices and confusion of a seemingly unjust reality through her body and expressions.

NC Dances VT presented a wide variety of choreography and artistic expression, and it is clear that all had a strong message to convey to the audience, though what that message was may have been different to each person. Such is the nature of experiencing dance.

ONE LIFE LEFT

By Brandon Cushman

As this semester's new videogame columnist, I will cover games ranging from small indie releases to big name games like *Halo* and *Call of Duty*. I want to start the column off with a review of a game I picked up this summer called *Brothers: A Tale of Two Sons*.

Brothers was released on August 7, 2013 by Starbreeze Studios and was made in collaboration with award-winning Swedish filmmaker Josef Fares. Starbreeze Studios is a small company based out of Stockholm, Sweden with fewer than 100 employees. The game is centered on the adventures of two brothers who set out in search of a magical herb needed to heal their dying father and the only family they have left. The game takes you through a breathtaking world that looks like something straight out of a children's fantasy novel. Along the way, you encounter all sorts of creatures like griffins, giants and even the occasional mad inventor. The story, however, contrasts this environment beautifully. There are surprisingly dark moments throughout the story that you would never expect from such a seemingly innocent

world. There is little to no dialogue in the game so it is these moments that the writers use to develop the characters. You watch as the younger brother confronts the issue of death again and again in the story and how he changes as a result of it. Meanwhile, the older brother does his best to protect his younger sibling from the harsh realities of the world.

You play the game from a third person perspective looking down onto the two brothers. You can play the game alone or experience the incredibly deep story with a friend. The play style of the game is very simple. The only controls are walking/running and an action button that you use to interact with each other or the environment. When I began playing the game, I was worried that the minimalist controls would become boring and dry as the game went on. However, the creators of the game mixed in several enjoyable mechanisms across different levels to prevent this

from happening, such as goat-riding and glider operating. In combination with the game being a relatively quick playthrough, I never found myself tired of the controls. While I enjoyed the fresh and original style of controlling both brothers at once, I found myself frustrated trying to keep from getting the controls confused. Often, both characters would be

running straight into a wall or a corner instead of going where I was trying to direct them. As you can imagine, my summer roommate got more

than a couple laughs in at my expense because of this.

By far the game's best feature is its environmental art — and the game creators knew it. Most likely, this came as a result of collaboration with the filmmaker Fares. To better enjoy all of the hard work they put into making such a picturesque world, the developers placed benches along the brothers' paths. The player can walk up to these benches which overlook

the breathtaking world they are traveling through. There are no rewards or achievements for doing this other than a great view. However, the benches are not the only way to take a quick break from your journey in the game. If you look hard enough and travel off the beaten path a little, there are several side activities to do like helping a sea turtle find her young or sounding a giant horn. I was a little disappointed because during my time playing the game I only found about a quarter of these things — they are a little more hidden than I would have liked for the laid-back style of play that the game showcases.

With a captivating story and a pleasant playing experience, I found *Brothers: A Tale of Two Sons* to be well worth the three hours it took to beat the game. I would definitely suggest that you pick it up off Steam, the Xbox Store or Playstation Network. Grab a copy and play it with a friend so that you don't end up running the brothers into walls for minutes at a time and making a fool of yourself like I did. Overall, I give *Brothers: A Tale of Two Sons* a 9.0 out of 10 for its story and its gorgeously rendered world.

BROTHERS

A Tale of Two Sons

BODY FIT WITH NINA VILA
TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS
12:30 P.M.
MCA 109, \$10

BELCEA STRING QUARTET
10/15
MCA CONCERT HALL
\$6 FOR STUDENTS

COCOON
10/24
MCA CONCERT HALL
\$5 FOR STUDENTS

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Cross Country Tops the Competition at Home

By Bryan Holtzman

On Saturday, Sept. 20, the Middlebury cross country teams hosted the Aldrich Invitational for their second meet of the year. Traditionally a low-key meet, this year's edition had stiffer competition: NESCAC rivals Colby and Hamilton made the trip to see the course in anticipation of the NESCAC Championship meet hosted by Middlebury on Nov. 1. Still, both Middlebury teams finished the day victorious, with the women recording a perfect score of 15 points and the men scoring 30.

The women kicked off the day with an impressive performance, sweeping the top six places and taking 10 of the top 15.

Katie Carlson '15 continued her strong season, winning the five kilometer race with a time of 18:49. Eleven seconds behind her came the pack of Panthers: Alison Maxwell '15, Summer Spillane '15, Addis Fouche-Channer '17, Adrian Walsh '16 and Sarah Guth '15 all finished within 10 seconds of one another to take spots two through six and seal the deal on a Panther victory.

Assistant Coach Jack Davies commented on the pack mentality of his runners in the race.

"With the team so collectively strong, they wound up running most of the race in large packs anyways," Davies said.

The women demonstrated that their depth that can be lethal in large championship

races. Finishing well behind the Panthers were Division-II Saint Michael's College with 76 points, Colby with 79 points and Hamilton with 85 points.

After the women's strong showing, it was time for the men to try to hold pace.

Kevin Wood '15 took home the win, finishing the eight kilometer race with a time of 26:08. Behind Wood was Wilder Schaaf '14.5, who secured second place for the Panthers with a time of 26:42. The next Middlebury man across the line was Jake Fox '15, taking sixth in a time of 27:06.

Brian Rich '17 and Sebastian Matt '16 each finished within 10 seconds of Fox, closing out the scoring with eighth and 13th-place finishes.

"We felt we were ready to really open it up for the first time this season," Davies said. "We had some strong intra-conference competition in Colby and Hamilton, and we never want to get shown up on our home course."

The men were not shown up by their fellow NESCAC schools: Colby finished second with 47 points and Hamilton third with 72 points.

Despite the increased competition at this year's Aldrich Invite, several athletes on each team did not race.

Davies explained this decision.

"The Aldrich Invitational is still an early season race, and we did hold a number of runners out this weekend," he said. "As

we near our peak training weeks, it's not uncommon for our athletes to feel a little banged up, and the cold weather last week definitely had a few kids feeling a little under the weather. Racing places a ridiculous amount of stress on the body, and we figured it was better to rest some people this weekend and have them ready to go during the championship season, rather than the other way around."



Kevin Wood '15 sprints to the finish in the Aldrich Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 20. MICHAEL O'HARA

Early-Season Success for Panther Golf Teams

By Courtney Mountifield

Both the men's and women's golf teams competed this past weekend, the women at the Mount Holyoke Invitational Tournament and the men at the Williams Invitational. Both teams finished strong with the women coming in third overall and the men placing fourth.

At the Williams Invitational, the men's golf team finished the weekend in fourth place, trailing only RPI, Skidmore and Williams. RPI won the event with a 598, Skidmore and Williams both scored a 600, and the Panthers shot a 604. Even though the first day was not as ideal as the team would have liked, they turned it around on the second and improved by three places in the overall ranking.

Senior Eric Laorr '15 tied for fourth in

the overall event after a two-day total of 147. Competing in his first collegiate tournament, Rodrigo Andrade '17 finished just two strokes behind Laorr with a final score of 149. Andrade's score was good enough for seventh on the individual standings, an impressive debut performance given his limited experience in college sports.

Charlie Garcia '15 finished tied for 23rd for the Panthers, John Louie '15 was two strokes behind in 33rd, while Chris Atwood '14.5 rounded out the Middlebury competitors with a 52nd-place finish.

Overall, the men were fourth in the 19-team event, finishing ahead of NESCAC rivals Trinity, Hamilton and Amherst.

At the Orchards Golf Club, the Middlebury women finished third at their respective event behind champion Williams and

runner-up Ithaca. Williams shot a two-day total of 623, Ithaca finished with 635, while the Middlebury Panthers ended the weekend with a 640 mark.

Michelle Peng '15 led the Panthers with a two-day score of 154, placing her six strokes behind the overall leader in a tie for fourth. Peng has been consistent lately and hopefully she will be able to continue her strong performance during other tournaments in the fall.

Jordan Glatt '15 and Hope Matthews '18 tied for 11th place for Middlebury with totals of 161. Theodora Yoch '17 came in 20th with a 164 and Emma Kitchen '14.5 finished in 54th with a 187 to round out the scorers for Middlebury – her first round of sub-90 golf since beginning her career three years ago.

"We had a solid performance this

weekend, with two players shooting their lowest collegiate rounds" Glatt said. "Michelle led the team again with another impressive tournament. We hope to use this result to gain momentum for our upcoming home tournament this weekend."

The men's team will travel to Hamilton this coming weekend to take part in the NESCAC qualifier, where they bested the field last year. The women will stay home and compete in their own Middlebury Invitational.

Next weekend proves to be a good test for the women, but everyone's eyes will be on the crucial men's NESCAC qualifier. The NESCAC qualifier will determine the four teams that are given a spot in the NESCAC tournament in the spring.

Football Unable to Finish Off Comeback

touchdown to put Wesleyan up 19-7. Following another missed extra point, the Cardinals would stay put at 19 points.

The two picks in the third quarter from Milano and running back Jacobs' being shaken up caused the Middlebury offense to sputter briefly to open the fourth quarter, and the first few drives proving unproductive. The Middlebury defense, however, galvanized the offense with a goal-line stand following a huge punt return from Wesleyan captain Donnie Cimino. Despite starting on the Middlebury 10, Wesleyan was unable to reach the end zone and settled for a field goal to make their lead 22-7.

On the ensuing drive, Milano rebounded, finding Luna again underneath for 25 yards before finding the agile Ryan Rizzo '17 for a nine-yard touchdown strike to cap off a 10-play, 64-yard drive and make the score 22-14, late in the fourth quarter.

With the game now only one possession and the Middlebury offense executing at a high level, a comeback now seemed inevitable.

True to its form all day, the Middlebury defense did more than its part following the kickoff, forcing a three and out, punctuated by a third-down sack from defensive end Jake Clapp '16.

With Wesleyan pinned deep in their own territory for the punt, a good return would have given the Middlebury offense more than a fighting chance of equalizing the score and forcing overtime.

However, a heartbreaking run into the

punter penalty flag gave the Cardinals a first down with only minutes left on the clock. Middlebury, with no timeouts, could do nothing as Wesleyan took a knee to drain the clock to zero.

While the loss was painful, Middlebury should go into next week's game against Colby feeling confident about the future of their young team, particularly with respect to their defensive play. Wesleyan, perhaps the premier offensive team in the NESCAC, looked uncomfortable all day against the stout Panther defense.

Gil Araujo '16 played a great ballgame at the three-technique defensive tackle spot, maintaining gap control when needed to free up the talented linebackers behind him, but more impressively showing great quickness in being an agitator up front. Araujo and linemate Clapp were in the Wesleyan backfield seemingly all afternoon, limiting the potent Wesleyan running game to less than yards per carry.

Similarly, the Middlebury defensive backs played a fine ballgame, especially when coming up in run support. The group was anchored by the play of free safety Matt Benedict '15, who led all players in tackles. Corner Nate Leedy '17 proved himself to be worthy of his reputation as one of the NESCAC's best at the position, playing a physical bump and run style defense against the Wesleyan receivers and absolutely punishing a Wesleyan receiver who had the misfortune of going over the middle on him near the end of the first half.

On offense, Milano made a fine first

start at the quarterback position, being thrown into the fire against a strong defense and showing a great rapport with receiver Luna.

On the offensive line, right tackle Danny Finta '15 proved himself worthy of a starting spot, largely neutralizing Nik Powers, Wesleyan's 6'7" 260-pound All-NESCAC defensive end. Finta battled Powers all day, taking any opportunity to both agitate and drive his opponent into the ground- resulting in a visibly frustrated the Wesleyan defensive end.

Perhaps the top highlight for Middlebury, however, was the play of first-year running back Jacobs, whose feel for the position was apparent throughout the game as he brought a level of athleticism that has not been seen in the Panther backfield in years. Jacobs kept the Wesleyan linebacking corps on their heels with his downfield vision and knack for making significant yardage out of nothing.

Particularly given the shortened length of the NESCAC season, a loss is far from ideal for the Panthers football squad, but the team played the game with an impressive physical presence that should worry future opponents.

Middlebury travels to Colby this Saturday, Sept. 27 to face off with the Mules. Colby, 32-7 losers to NESCAC contender Trinity this past weekend, will provide a litmus test for the Panthers as they aim to show that they can contend for the conference title again this year.

With one loss already to their record, the Panthers cannot afford another on their quest for the NESCAC crown.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM Plunkett's Predictions

1 MEN'S SOCCER
Good vibes all around from this young 5-0-1 squad.

2 FIELD HOCKEY
Got to imagine they're hungry after a close loss.

3 FOOTBALL
The defense looked on point vs. Wesleyan, offense should be clicking in no time.

4 VOLLEYBALL
This team's season is about to turn around and take right off.

5 WOMEN'S SOCCER
This team can shoot, it's only a matter of time before they find twine.

6 GOLF
Fourth last weekend; let's see it continue.

7 CROSS COUNTRY
Two first-place finishes last weekend, no surprise.

8 TEAM TAILGATE
Ejected.

Football Falls to Wesleyan on Late Penalty

By Stephen Etna

Saturday, Sept. 20, was in many ways a new era for the Middlebury football program. Following the departure of two-time NESCAC Offensive Player of the Year McCallum Foote '14 and multiple other players at skill positions – including offensive stalwarts in the pairing of All-NESCAC Tight End Billy Sadik-Khan '14 and running back Matt Rea '14 – to graduation, the team inevitably had to move on. In their first opportunity to do so this weekend, the Panthers were unable to capitalize on a fourth-quarter comeback as they fell at home to Wesleyan by a score of 22-14.

Leading the Panther offense at quarterback, having seized the open quarterback position during training camp, Matt Milano '16 made his first start at quarterback for the Panthers against the highly touted Wesleyan Cardinals.

Following a scoreless first quarter in which the teams traded possession, the game opened up less than a minute into the second quarter when Wesleyan receiver Jay Fabien capped off a 66 yard pitch and catch with a devastating spin move, scoring a touchdown down the left sideline off of a deep throw from quarterback Jesse Warren.

Middlebury would take the following kickoff for a touchback, setting up Middlebury on their own 20. Following a hard Drew Jacobs '18 run on first down, Milano and the Middlebury offense found a nice groove. Milano

found receiver Grant Luna '17 repeatedly underneath, allowing the athletic Luna to gash the Wesleyan defense on yards after the catch.

Only a minute and fifty-seven seconds after taking possession of the ball, the Panthers drove the length of the field with Milano finding his favorite target Luna on a crossing route on the right side of the end-zone. The sophomore showed nice body-control in getting both feet down for good measure on his touchdown reception, giving him three receptions for 40 yards and the score on that drive alone.

The Cardinals, starting near mid-field after a solid kick return, would drive the remaining 51 yards of the field to score before the half, putting the Cardinals up 13-7. Middlebury's All-NESCAC linebacker Tim Patricia '16 was able to block the extra point – shooting through a mess of bodies, Patricia somehow deflected the kick, leading to the impaired kick bouncing harmlessly off the goal post.

Middlebury, receiving at the ball at the beginning of the second half, carried over some momentum in driving the ball up the field against the stout Wesleyan defense. Former Milton Academy standout Jacobs again displayed great patience on the drive in following his blockers in Middlebury's zone-blocking scheme. Letting Middlebury's physical interior lineman, including guard Blake Shapskinsky '15, reach the second level before making his cut, Jacobs ran the

play better than any first-year could reasonably be expected to.

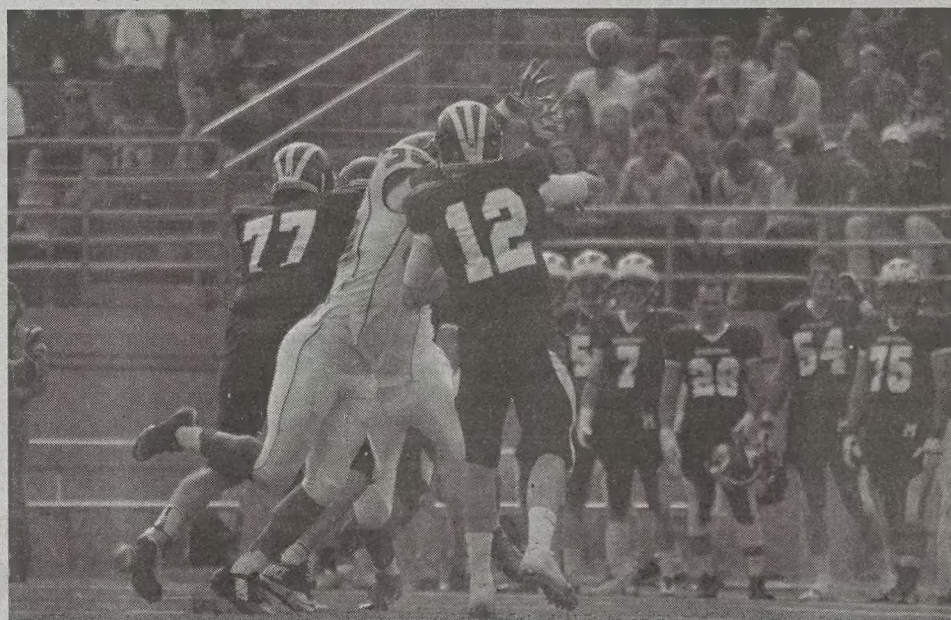
The drive would reach an early end with Wesleyan defensive back Jake Bussani robbing Milano of his second touchdown of the day with a spectacular over-the-shoulder interception.

However, Wesleyan would be stonewalled on offense with a three-and-out on the ensuing drive, with middle linebackers Patricia and Addison Pierce '17 denying the Cardinals offense any

room to breathe, making consecutive plays at the line of scrimmage to force the punt.

Trading possession for the rest of the third quarter, disaster struck for Middlebury. Seeing a similar route that previously caught him off guard, Wesleyan defensive back Justin Sanchez jumped Milano's throw, taking the ensuing pick 41 yards to the end zone for the

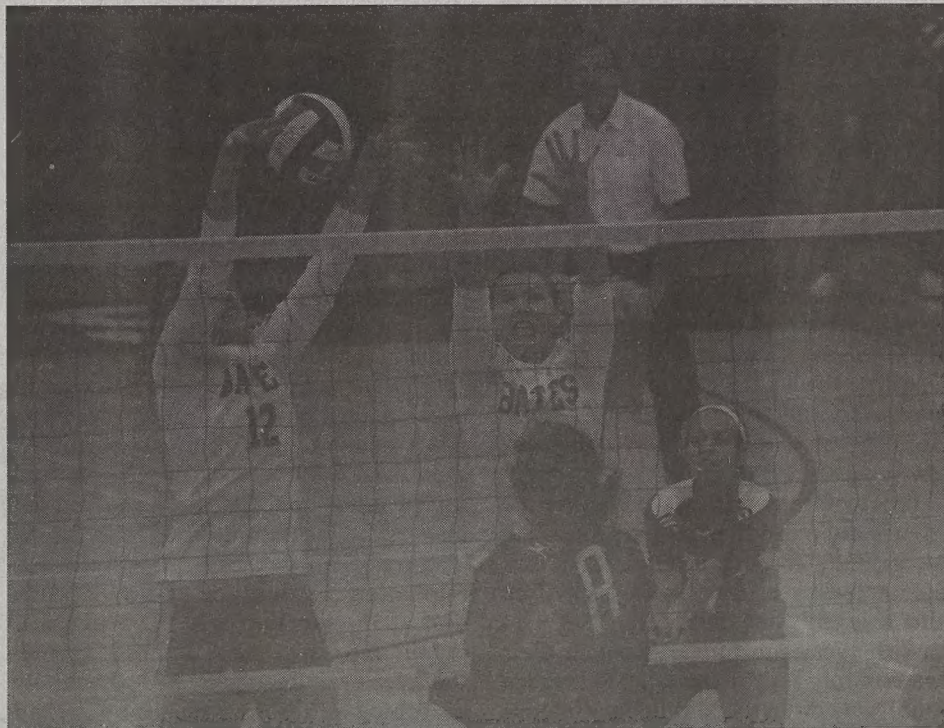
SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 21



MICHAEL O'HARA

Starting in his first game, Middlebury quarterback Matt Milano '16 (12) threw for 204 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions against co-defending NESCAC champion Wesleyan. Milano, running back Drew Jacobs '18 and wide receiver Grant Luna '17 highlighted a potent young offensive unit for the Panthers.

VOLLEYBALL OPENS CONFERENCE SCHEDULE WITH WIN



MICHAEL O'HARA

The women's volleyball team opened their NESCAC season on a high note this Saturday, Sept. 20, defeating Bates in straight sets. Now 2-4 overall on the season, the Panthers have an opportunity to stay perfect in conference play when they host Hamilton this Friday, Sept. 26.

Field Hockey Loses Heartbreaker at Home

By Hailey Cosseboom

The Middlebury women's field hockey team experienced its first loss of the season this past Saturday in an extremely close game against the top-ranked Bowdoin Polar Bears that resulted in a 2-1 loss for the fourth-ranked Panthers.

A rematch of last year's NESCAC championship game, the match featured a pair of national top-five teams scrambling for early-season control of the conference. The play on the field lived up to the match's billing.

The Panthers were quick to score and take control of the game first half with a goal by senior captain Cat Fowler '15 just four minutes into the start of the clock. Fowler was assisted by sophomore Bridget Instrum '16 who dribbled into the midfield inside the 25 yard-line before looking to Fowler for a powerful drive to goal.

Goalie Emily Knapp '15 made a crucial save 15 minutes into the game in which she left her goal to greet a Bowdoin attacker who had snuck past the defensive line. Knapp denied the shot aiding the Panthers in maintaining their 1-0 lead for the entire first half.

The Panthers were able to dictate the momentum in the first half due in large part to the stellar midfield play of senior duo Fowler and Alyssa DiMaio '15, who combined for five shots in the first half

alone to keep the pressure on Bowdoin. Middlebury held a 5-3 advantage in shots and a 4-2 advantage in penalty corners in the opening period of play.

Moving into the second half, Knapp again made an important save for the Panthers, denying a Polar Bear attacker to keep Middlebury in the lead.

While Middlebury dominated and maintained possession for a majority of the time, Bowdoin gained momentum during the last few critical moments of the game. The Polar Bears had a stroke called for them and were able to capitalize on it, sneaking a shot past Knapp into the bottom left corner of the goal to knot the score at one apiece with only two minutes left to play in the game.

Unfortunately for Middlebury, Bowdoin was not done scoring at that point.

With the intensity amplified by the sudden tie in the game's closing minutes, the Polar Bears capitalized on their momentum by scoring a second goal less than a minute after their first to take the lead.

Just as time was running out, Middlebury had one final opportunity to force overtime, but the Panthers were unable to convert a penalty corner and fell by a final score of 2-1.

Sophomore midfielder Olivia

Jurkowitz '17 summarized her thoughts on the weekend's matchup.

"Overall Midd had more scoring opportunities but we weren't able to capitalize on them when needed, meanwhile Bowdoin had less chances but put them to use especially when it mattered most," she said.

Bowdoin was able to pull the reversal on Middlebury due in large part to their statistical dominance in the second half. While the Panthers were dominant in the opening half, the Polar Bears put five shots

on goal after the break to Middlebury's one.

Now holders of a 4-1 record, Middlebury looks to regain its winning streak this coming Saturday, Sept. 27 as they travel to Waterville, ME for a NESCAC matchup with Colby. The Mules, who are currently 3-3, will try to pull an upset against the heavily favored Panthers.

Despite the loss, expectations remain high for the Panthers, who will look to postseason play as a possible opportunity to get their revenge on Bowdoin.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

FIELD HOCKEY vs. Bowdoin	2-1 ^L	Close loss to a formidable conference opponent.
VOLLEYBALL vs. Bates	3-0 ^W	A great weekend for a team that suffered early season losses in its first outings.
FOOTBALL vs. Wesleyan	22-14 ^L	The Panthers failed to uphold their NESCAC title.
WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Bowdoin	2-1 ^L	The women's soccer team outshot Bowdoin but trailed on the scoreboard.
MEN'S SOCCER vs. Bowdoin	2-0 ^W	An array of offensive threats helped power Middlebury past NESCAC foe Bowdoin.

Sydor, Panthers Earn Fifth-Straight Shutout Win

CONTINUED FROM 24 be a playmaker for us has been pivotal in the majority of goals we've been scoring."

Glaser's goal, assisted by Conrad, was the fourth such occurrence of the season. Glaser now leads the NESCAC in goals outright with five, and Conrad similarly paces the league in assists.

"We've just started playing together and things are going very well," Glaser said. "The fact we're both just sophomores should be very scary for

the rest of the NESCAC — this is just the beginning of what we're capable of."

In fact, Middlebury fielded very few seniors during their game on Saturday. Goss-Woliner was the lone senior to start for the Panthers, and Brandon Robinson '15 came on briefly in the second half.

In the second half, Bowdoin tried to get on the board, but the Panther defense held strong, allowing only one shot on goal for the whole game, despite the Polar Bears' nine total shots.

The Panthers held possession for extended periods throughout the second half, and controlled the midfield more effectively. The match became increasingly heated as Bowdoin failed to find the goal through the suffocating Panther defense. Sydor recorded the win and his fourth-straight clean sheet with one save in goal.

With this win, Middlebury holds third place in the NESCAC, three points behind leader Amherst.

On Tuesday, Sept. 23 the Panthers returned to action for a midweek matchup with regional foe Colby-Sawyer. Middlebury scored early and often in the match, with Kirk Horton '17 sandwiching a pair of goals around a tally from Goss Woliner to give the

Panthers the victory by a final score of 3-0.

Sydor saved the sole Colby-Sawyer shot on goal for his fifth consecutive shutout.

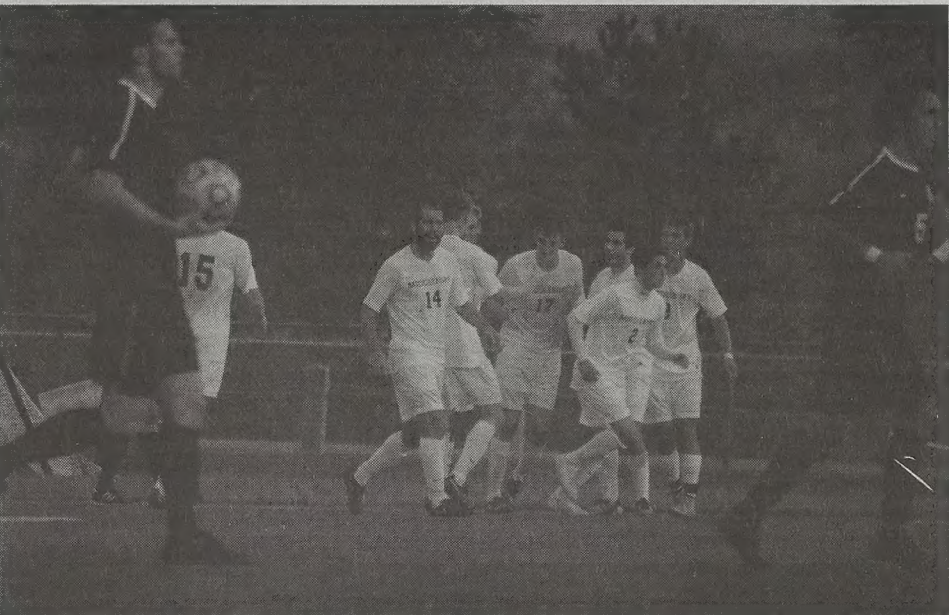
The Panthers resume NESCAC play on Saturday in Waterville against Colby. The Mules sit at the bottom of the table

with a 0-3-0 league record.

"I think we will start to solidify our style of play and really figure out how to dominate games for the whole 90 minutes," Bean said. "We just look at each game as a time to improve and play the best soccer our group of guys can play."

BY THE NUMB3RS

- 89Seconds required for Bowdoin field hockey to score two consecutive goals to surpass the Panthers 2-1 on Saturday.
- 13Consecutive trips to the NCAA tournament for men's tennis.
- 81Rushing yards for first-year running back Drew Jacobs '18 in Middlebury's 22-14 loss to Wesleyan.
- 6:02Mile split for Katie Carlson '15 over 5K, en route to a first place finish this weekend.
- 20Combined kills for the Kolodka sisters, Emily '18 and Olivia '15 in volleyball's 3-0 win against Bates.



MICHAEL O'HARA

The Middlebury men's soccer team continued its undefeated streak this Saturday, Sept. 20, beating Bowdoin 2-0 for their fourth consecutive shutout victory.

EDITORS' PICKS

REMO PLUNKETT (3-1, .750)

FRITZ PARKER (48-44, .522)

EMILY BUSTARD (2-2, .500)

Pick 'em: Middlebury vs. Colby in a women's soccer's NESCAC match this weekend?	Will Middlebury field hockey answer last week's close loss with a shutout against Colby?	Over/Under: 250 passing yards for Matt Milano '16 in football's matchup with Colby.	Closest To: Lost donations as a result of the College's new tailgating policy.
MIDDLEBURY This team was absolute fire last season and can crank out shots like there's no tomorrow. And Colby is soft.	NO A shutout is a tall order, I'd be perfectly happy simply seeing a W out of this team.	UNDER It's going to be close though.	\$10,000,000,000,000,000 No comment.
MIDDLEBURY The Panthers are going to take it out on the Mules. This one isn't going to be close.	YES Emily Knapp '15 already has a pair of shutouts to her record this year.	OVER Not every defense in the NESCAC is as stingy as Wesleyan.	\$15.99 The current market value for a thirty rack of Natty Light.
MIDDLEBURY They can use this game to break their overall 3-3 record. It'll be great.	YES This team has done it before this season and I think they can do it again.	OVER With 204 passing yards last weekend, they can surpass that against Colby.	\$0 I'm an optimist.



FALSE START

In a matchup of squads that tied for the NESCAC crown a year ago, the Middlebury football team fell short in their season opener against Wesleyan, losing at home 22-14.

SEE PAGE 22 FOR FULL COVERAGE.

Men's Soccer Beats Bowdoin, Remains Unbeaten in NESCAC

By Colin McIntyre

The men's soccer team (4-0-1, 2-0-1) continued their string of shutout victories with a comfortable midweek away victory over Southern Vermont and a home win over Bowdoin on Saturday, Sept. 20.

On Wednesday, Sept. 17, the Panthers traveled to Bennington, where they were the heavy favorites against the Southern Vermont College Mountaineers of the New England Collegiate Conference, and won 4-0. Middlebury pulled the trigger early and often against Southern Vermont, racking up 20 first-half shots. The Mountaineer defense turned away several early opportunities, but the Panthers could not be held goalless into halftime. In the 39th minute, Greg Conrad '17 opened the scoring after he settled a pass up the middle from Andres Rodlauer '16. Conrad slotted the ball into the left side of the net for his first goal of the season.

Middlebury would not score again in the first half, but instead doubled their lead on the other side of halftime. Conrad was the middleman on a give-and-go with Adam Glaser '17 in the 52nd minute. He collected the pass and fed it back to a streaking Glaser who finished across the face of goal to put the Panthers up 2-0.

Nine minutes later, Conrad would score his second goal of the day off an assist from

Kirk Horton '17. The Panthers' defense, solid in the opening games of the season, went unchallenged for the vast majority of the game. The Mountaineers took three shots, with only one on frame, which was turned away by goaltender Greg Sydor '17. The Panthers held an insurmountable shot advantage, taking 38, with 17 on target. Sydor was replaced for the first time this season in the 76th minute in favor of Jeremy Yeager '18. Yeager went unchallenged in goal.

In the waning minutes of the game, Dan Skayne '15 had his first goal of the season off of a through ball from Enzo Weiner '18 to wrap up the scoring. Middlebury left Southern Vermont with a 3-0-1 record after the 4-0 win.

Middlebury faced much stiffer competition in Saturday's 2-0 win over Bowdoin. The Polar Bears maintained possession well early on, and had a great opportunity only 20 seconds in that sailed high. The Panther defense had their work cut out for them early as the ball was in the defensive half for a majority of the opening 20 minutes. The play through the Panther midfield was tenuous to begin the game, with Middlebury often surrendering possession to the Polar Bears, and relying on over-the-top balls to Glaser and Conrad to generate offense.

Nevertheless, the Panthers did pressure the Polar Bears back line and won a pair of

consecutive corners in the 23rd minute. After the first was knocked out by Bowdoin, Noah Goss-Woliner '15 sent a curling ball in from the right side towards the head of Tom Bean '17. The tall center defender beat his mark and redirected the ball across the face of the goal to secure his first goal of the season.

On the last Middlebury set piece goal, Deklan Robinson '16, another tall threat headed the ball home. Bean commented on the team's strategy, "We have a very dangerous team in the air with all of our size, so we try to send our big guys into the box to make things happen on set plays, but that passes a lot of defensive responsibilities to other players. Fortunately everyone has been playing their parts effectively which allows Deklan and I to take those risks comfortably."

Eight minutes later, Conrad sent a ball through the Bowdoin defense. Polar Bears' goalkeeper Noah Safian misjudged the timing, and Glaser was able to beat him to the ball and chip it over him from the edge of the penalty area. The ball had just enough pace to beat a Bowdoin defender's clearance effort.

Glaser was quick to praise his fellow striker, saying, "Our success as a front line is because of the chemistry Greg and I are building. Greg's having a wonderful season so far and his ability to hold the ball up and

SEE SYDOR, PAGE 23

Tough Loss for Women's Soccer

By Gabe Weissmann

Coming off a startling loss to Connecticut College, the Middlebury women's soccer team continued their disappointing start to the 2014 NESCAC season this Saturday, Sept. 20 as they fell at home to Bowdoin by a score of 2-1.

Going into the game, the Panthers were looking for an opportunity to turn around their season after a pair of hard-fought losses to conference foes Amherst and Conn. College. A midweek win over regional rival Plattsburgh provided a spurt of momentum that Middlebury brought into the matchup with Bowdoin.

Stout defense enabled the Panthers to play to a scoreless stalemate in the first half against the Polar Bears.

Goalkeeper Kate Reinmuth '17 saved a trio of shots for Middlebury as both teams struggled to gain an edge in the opening period of play. Both the Panthers and Polar Bears were able to gain a few scoring opportunities in the half, but neither team was able to convert as the game went into halftime scoreless.

In the second half of play, Bowdoin broke through in the 59th minute with a goal from Amanda Kinneston. After Reinmuth made a diving save on a crossing shot from 30 yards out, Kinneston was able to tip the rebound back into the net to give her team the advantage.

Not to be outdone, the Panthers responded with a goal of their own 11 minutes later. After coming in as a substitute, combo forward-midfielder Krystina Reynolds '17

answered off of a cross from senior Carter Talgo '15 to tie the game at one apiece and give her team new life with just over 20 minutes left to play.

With the game tied, Bowdoin was able to regain the advantage in the 75th minute on a 20-yard shot from Kiersten Turner. Turner led Bowdoin with a goal and an assist on the day.

Goalie play was again strong on both sides in the game with Bowdoin's Bridget McCarthy saving five of Middlebury's six shots on goal. Reinmuth finished with five saves on seven shots faced.

Middlebury outshot Bowdoin on the day 15-13, while the Polar Bears' single corner kick opportunity in the second half gave them a 3-1 advantage over the Panthers in that facet of play.

Middlebury's outshooting their opponents regardless of the outcome of the game appears to be a common theme so far this season. With a shooting percentage of .064 as compared to their opponents shooting percentage of .135, finishing the opportunities they've created may be a point of emphasis for the team going forward. Only so many of their scoring troubles can be attributed to performance, however, as the Panthers haven't caught nearly as many breaks as their opponents at this point in the season.

Middlebury resumes its slate of conference competition this Saturday, Sept. 27 when they travel to Colby for a matchup with the host Mules, who enter the game with a 1-3-1 record overall.

